



Quality Systems Manual

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Vincent Pugliese'.

Vincent Pugliese, President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David M. Speis'.

David Speis, Laboratory Director

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Phillip Worby, Director, Quality Assurance

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nancy F. Cole'.

Nancy Cole, Technical Director - Inorganics

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Wen Wen Chi'.

Wen Wen Chi, Technical Director - Organics

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Introduction

The Accutest Laboratories Quality Assurance System, detailed in this plan, has been designed to meet the quality program requirements of the National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Conference (NELAC), ISO Guide 17025, ISO Guide 17011 and other National environmental monitoring programs. The plan establishes the framework for documenting the requirements of the quality processes regularly practiced by the Laboratory. The Quality Assurance Director is responsible for changes to the Quality Assurance Program, which are appended to the Quality System Manual (QSM) during the annual program review. The plan is also reviewed annually for compliance purposes by the Company President and Laboratory Director and edited if necessary. Changes that are incorporated into the plan are itemized in a summary of changes following the introduction. Plan changes are communicated to the general staff in a meeting conducted by the Director of Quality Assurance following the plan's approval.

The Accutest plan is supported by standard operating procedures (SOPs), which provide specific operational instructions on the execution of each quality element and assure that compliance with the requirements of the plan are achieved. Accutest employees are responsible for knowing the requirements of the SOPs and applying them in the daily execution of their duties. These documents are updated as changes occur and the staff is trained to apply the changes.

At Accutest, we believe that satisfying client requirements and providing a product that meets or exceeds the standards of the industry is the key to a good business relationship. However, client satisfaction cannot be guaranteed unless there is a system that assures the product consistently meets its design requirements and is adequately documented to assure that all procedural steps are executed, properly documented and traceable.

This plan has been designed to assure that this goal is consistently achieved and the Accutest product withstands the rigors of scrutiny that are routinely applied to analytical data and the processes that support its generation.

Summary of Changes

Accutest Laboratories Quality System Manual – January & March 2009

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1.0 QUALITY POLICY

1.1 Accutest Mission:

Accutest Laboratories provides analytical services to commercial and government clients in support of environmental monitoring and remedial activities as requested. The Laboratory's mission is dedicated to providing reliable data that satisfies client's requirements as explained in the following:

“Provide easy access, high quality, analytical support to commercial and government clients which meets or exceeds data quality objectives and provides them with the data needed to satisfy regulatory requirements and/or make confident decisions on the effectiveness of remedial activities.”

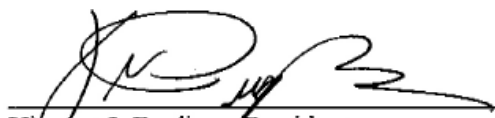
These services are provided impartially and are not influenced by undue commercial or financial pressures which might impact the staff's technical judgment. Coincidentally, Accutest does not engage in activities that endanger the trust in our independent judgment and integrity in relation to the testing activities performed.

1.2 Policy Statement:

The management and staff of Accutest Laboratories share the responsibility for product quality. Accordingly, Accutest's quality assurance program is designed to assure that all processes and procedures, which are components of environmental data production, meet established industry requirements, are adequately documented from a procedural and data traceability perspective, and are consistently executed by the staff. It also assures that analytical data of known quality, meeting the quality objectives of the analytical method in use and the data user's requirements, is consistently produced in the laboratory. This assurance enables the data user to make rational, confident, cost-effective decisions on the assessment and resolution of environmental issues.

The laboratory Quality System also provides the management staff with data quality and operational feedback information. This enables them to determine if the laboratory is achieving the established quality and operational standards, which are dictated by the client or established by regulation. The information provided to management, through the QA program, is used to assess operational performance from a quality perspective and to perform corrective action as necessary.

All employees of Accutest Laboratories participating in environmental testing receive quality system training and are responsible for knowing and complying with the system requirements. The entire staff shares Accutest's commitment to good professional practice.


Vincent J. Pugliese, President

March 17, 2009

Date

2.0 ORGANIZATION

2.1 **Organizational Entity.** Accutest Laboratories is a privately held, independent testing laboratory founded in 1956 and registered as a New Jersey Corporation. The headquarters are located in Dayton, New Jersey where it has conducted business since 1987. Satellite laboratories are maintained in Marlborough, Massachusetts; Orlando, Florida, Houston, Texas, Santa Clara, California and Wheat Ridge, Colorado.

2.2 **Management Responsibilities**

Requirement. Each laboratory facility has an established chain of command. The duties and responsibilities of the management staff are linked to the President/CEO of Accutest Laboratories who establishes the agenda for all company activities.

President/CEO. Primary responsibility for all operations and business activities. Delegates authority to laboratory directors, general managers, and the quality assurance director to conduct day to day operations and execute quality assurance duties. Each of the six operational entities (New Jersey, Florida, Massachusetts, Texas, California and Colorado) report to the President/CEO.

Vice President Operations/Laboratory Director. Executes day to day responsibility for laboratory operations including technical aspects of production activities and associated logistical procedures. Reports directly to the President/CEO.

Quality Assurance Director. Design, oversight, and facilitation responsibility for all Quality System elements identified in the Quality Program. Reports directly to the President/CEO.

Technical Directors (Organics/Inorganic). Responsible for day to day operations and activities of the organics and inorganics laboratories including scheduling, production and data quality. Reports directly to the Laboratory Director.

Department Managers. Executes day to day responsibility for specific laboratory areas including technical aspects of production activities and associated logistical procedures. Direct report to the laboratory director.

Section Supervisors. Executes day to day responsibility for specific laboratory units including technical aspects of production activities and associated logistical procedures. Direct report to the Department Manager.

2.3 **Chain of Command**

The responsibility for managing all aspects of the Company's operation is delegated to specific individuals, who have been assigned the authority to act in the absence of the senior staff. These individuals are identified in the following Chain of Command:

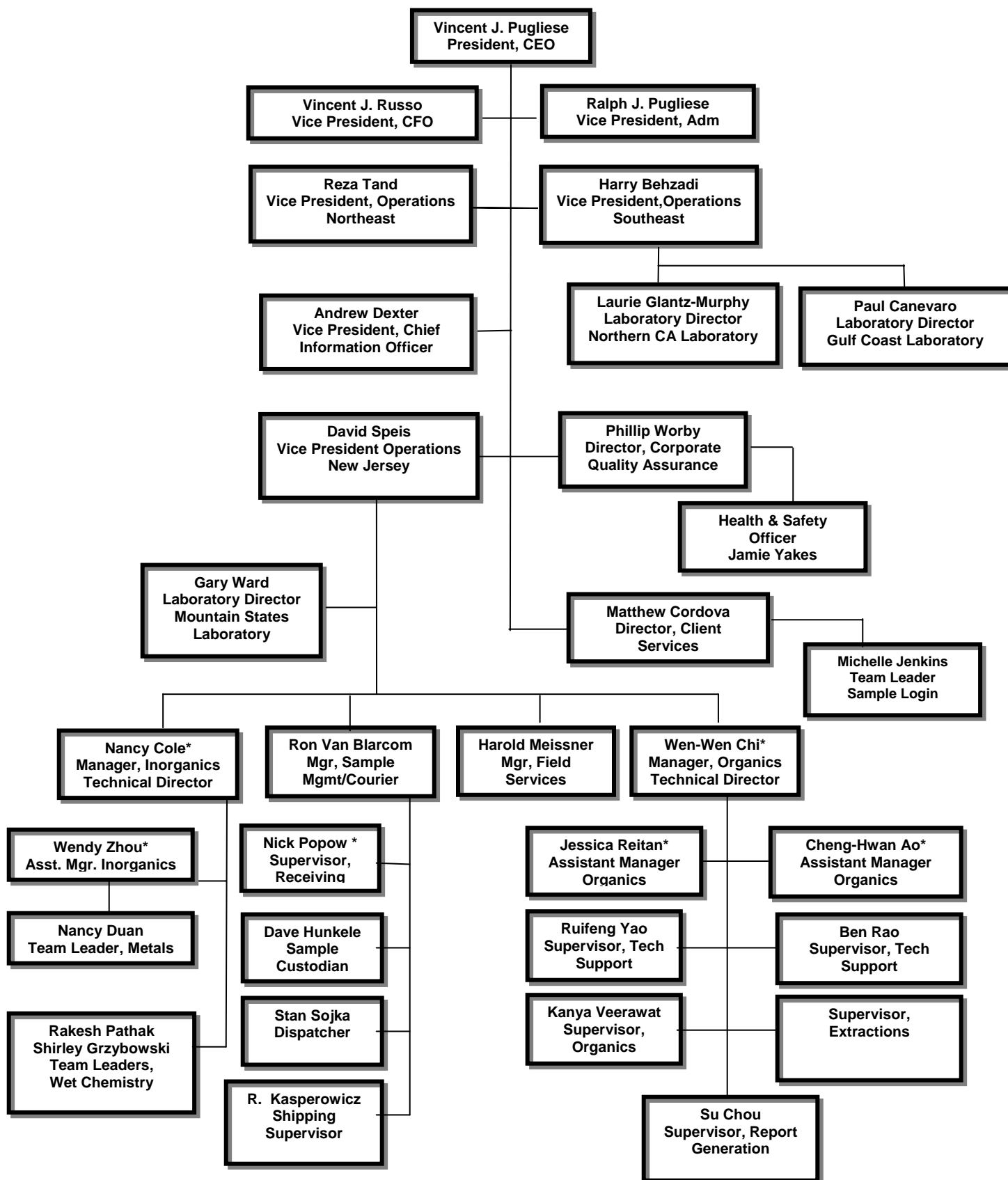
Vince Pugliese; President and Chief Executive Officer

Vince Russo; Chief Financial Officer

David Speis; Vice President Laboratory Operations & Laboratory Director

Matt Cordova, Director, Client Services

Accutest Laboratories Organization Chart



3.0 QUALITY RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE MANAGEMENT TEAM

- 3.1 **Requirement:** Each member of the management team has a defined responsibility for the Quality System. System implementation and operation is designated as an operational management responsibility. System design and implementation is designated as a Quality Assurance Responsibility.

President/CEO. Primary responsibility for all quality activities. Delegates program responsibility to the Quality Assurance Director. Serves as the primary alternate in the absence of the Quality Assurance Director. Has the ultimate responsibility for implementation of the Quality System.

Vice President Operations/Laboratory Director. Responsible for implementing and operating the Quality System in all laboratory areas. Responsible for the design and implementation of corrective action for defective processes. Has the authority to delegate Quality System implementation responsibilities.

Quality Assurance Director. Responsible for design, implementation support, training, and monitoring of the quality system. Identifies product, process, or operational defects using statistical monitoring tools and processes audits for elimination via corrective action. Empowered with the authority to halt production if quality issues warrant immediate action. Monitors implemented corrective actions for compliance.

Technical Directors. Responsible for overseeing the technical aspects of the quality assurance system as they are integrated into method applications and employed to assess analytical control on a daily basis. The Technical directors review and acknowledge the technical feasibility of proposed QA systems involving technical applications of applied methodology.

Department Managers. Responsible for applying the requirements of the Quality System in their section and assuring subordinate supervisors and staff apply all system requirements. Initiates, designs, documents, and implements corrective action for quality deficiencies.

Section Supervisors & Team Leaders. Responsible for applying the requirements of the Quality System to their operation and assuring the staff applies all system requirements. Initiates, designs, documents, and implements corrective action for quality deficiencies.

Quality Assurance Officers. Responsible for design support, implementation support, training, and monitoring support for the quality system. Conducts audits and product reviews to identify product, process, or operational defects using statistical monitoring tools and processes audits for elimination via corrective action. Provides monitors support for implemented corrective actions for compliance.

Bench Analysts. Responsible for applying the requirements of the Quality System to the analyses they perform, evaluating QC data and initiating corrective action for quality control deficiencies within their control. Implements global corrective action as directed by superiors.

- 3.2 **Program Authority.** Authority for program implementation originates with the President/CEO who bears the ultimate responsibility for system design, implementation, and enforcement of requirements. This authority and responsibility is delegated to the Director of Quality Assurance who performs quality functions independently without the encumbrances or biases associated with operational or production responsibilities to ensure an honest, independent assessment of quality issues.
- 3.3 **Data Integrity Policy.** The Accutest Data Integrity Policy reflects a comprehensive, systematic approach for assuring that data produced by the laboratory accurately reflects the outcome of the tests performed on field samples and has been produced in a bias free environment by ethical professionals. The policy includes a commitment to technical ethics, staff training in ethics and data integrity, an individual attestation to data integrity and procedures for evaluating data integrity. Senior management assumes the responsibility for assuring compliance with all technical ethics elements and operation of all data integrity procedures. The staff is responsible for compliance with the ethical code of conduct and for practicing data integrity procedures.

The Accutest Data Integrity Policy is as follows:

“Accutest Laboratories is committed to producing data that meets the data integrity requirements of the environmental regulatory community. This commitment is demonstrated through the application of a comprehensive data integrity program that includes ethics and data integrity training, data integrity evaluation procedures, staff participation and management oversight. Adherence to the specifications of the program assures that data provided to our clients is of the highest possible integrity and can be used for decision making processes with high confidence.”

Data Integrity Responsibilities

Management. Senior management retains oversight responsibility for the data integrity program and retains ultimate responsibility for execution of the data integrity program elements. Senior management is responsible for providing the resources required to conduct ethics training and operate data integrity evaluation procedures. They also include responsibility for creating an environment of trust among the staff and being the lead advocate for promoting the data integrity policy and the importance of technical ethics. The Quality Assurance Director is the designated ethics officer for the Company.

Staff. The staff is responsible for adhering to the company ethics policy as they perform their duties and responsibilities associated with sample analysis and reporting. By executing this responsibility, data produced by Accutest Laboratories retains its high integrity characteristics and withstands the rigors of all data integrity checks.

The staff is also responsible for adhering to all laboratory requirements pertaining to manual data edits, data transcription and data traceability. These include the application of approved manual peak integration and documentation procedures. It also includes establishing traceability for all manual results calculations and data edits.

Ethics Statement. The Accutest ethics statement reflects the standards that are expected for businesses that provide environmental services to regulated entities and regulatory agencies on a commercial basis. The Ethics Policy is comprised of key elements that are essential to organizations that perform chemical analysis for a fee. As such, it focuses on elements related to personal, technical and business activities.

Accutest Laboratories provides analytical chemistry services on environmental matters to the regulated community. The data the company produces provides the foundation for determining the risk presented by a chemical pollutant to human health and the environment. The environmental industry is dependent upon the accurate portrayal of environmental chemistry data. This process is reliant upon a high level of scientific and personal ethics.

It is essential to the Company that each employee understands the ethical and quality standards required to work in this industry. Accordingly, Accutest has adopted a code of ethics, which each employee is expected to adhere to as follows:

- Perform chemical and microbiological analysis using accepted scientific practices and principles.
- Perform tasks in an honest, principled and incorruptible manner inspiring peers & subordinates.
- Maintain professional integrity as an individual.
- Provide services in a confidential, honest, and forthright manner.
- Produce results that are accurate and defensible.
- Report data without any considerations of self-interest.
- Comply with all pertinent laws and regulations associated with assigned tasks and responsibilities.

Data Integrity Procedures. Four key elements comprise the Accutest data integrity system. Procedures have been implemented for conducting data integrity training and for documenting that employees conform to the Accutest Data Integrity and Ethics policy.

The data integrity program consists of routine data integrity evaluation and documentation procedures to periodically monitor and document data integrity. These procedures are

documented as SOPs. SOPs are approved and reviewed annually following the procedures employed for all Accutest SOPs. Documentation associated with data integrity evaluations is maintained on file and is available for review.

Data Integrity Training. Accutest employees receive technical ethics training during new employee orientation. Employees are also required to refresh their ethical conduct agreement annually, which verifies their understanding of Accutest's ethics policy and their ethical responsibilities. A brochure summarizing the details of the Accutest Data Integrity Policy is distributed to all employees with the Ethical Conduct Agreement. The refreshed agreement is appended to each individual's training file.

The training focuses on the reasons for technical ethic training, explains the impact of data fraud on human health and the environment, and illustrates the consequences of criminal fraud on businesses and individual careers. Accutest's ethics policy and code of ethics are reviewed and explained for each new employee.

Training on data integrity procedures are conducted by individual departments for groups involved in data operations. These include procedures for manual chromatographic peak integration, traceability for manual calculations and data transcription.

Data Integrity Training Documentation. Records of all data integrity training are maintained in individual training folders. Attendance at all training sessions is documented and maintained in the training archive.

Accutest Data Integrity and Ethical Conduct Agreement. All employees are required to sign a Data Integrity and Ethical Conduct Agreement annually. This document is archived in individual training files, which are retained for duration of employment.

The Data Integrity and Ethical Conduct Agreement is as follows:

- I. I understand the high ethical standards required of me with regard to the duties I perform and the data I report in connection with my employment at Accutest Laboratories.*
- II. I have received formal instruction on the code of ethics that has been adapted by Accutest Laboratories during my orientation and agree to comply with these requirements.*
- III. I have received formal instruction on the elements of Accutest Laboratories' Data Integrity Policy and have been informed of the following specific procedures:*
 - a. Formal procedures for the confidential reporting of data integrity issues are available, which can be used by any employee,*
 - b. A data integrity investigation is conducted when data issues are identified that may negatively impact data integrity.*

- c. Routine data integrity monitoring is conducted on sample data, which may include an evaluation of the data I produce,*
- IV. I have read the brochure detailing Accutest Laboratories Data Integrity and Ethics Program as required.*
- V. I am aware that data fraud is a punishable crime that may include fines and/or imprisonment upon conviction.*
- VI. I also agree to the following:*
 - a. I shall not intentionally report data values, which are not the actual values observed or measured.*
 - b. I shall not intentionally modify data values unless the modification can be technically justified through a measurable analytical process.*
 - c. I shall not intentionally report dates and times of data analysis that are not the true and actual times the data analysis was conducted.*
 - d. I shall not condone any accidental or intentional reporting of inauthentic data by other employees and immediately report it's occurrence to my superiors.*
 - e. I shall immediately report any accidental reporting of inauthentic data by myself to my superiors.*

Data Integrity Monitoring. Documented procedures are employed for performing data integrity monitoring. These include regular data review procedures by supervisory and management staff (Section 12.7), supervisory review and approval of manual integrations and periodic reviews of GALP audit trails from the LIMS and all computer controlled analysis.

Data Review. All data produced by the laboratory undergoes several levels of review, which includes two levels of management review. Detected data anomalies that appear to be related to data integrity issues are isolated for further investigation. The investigation is conducted following the procedures described in this section.

Manual Peak Integration Review and Approval. Routine data review procedures for all chromatographic processes includes a review of all manual chromatographic peak integrations. This review is performed by the management staff and consists of a review of the machine integration compared to the manual integration. Manual integrations, which have been performed in accordance with Accutest's manual peak integration procedures, are approved for further processing and release. Identification of samples and analytes in which manual integration had been necessary may be recorded in a report case narrative specific to a particular client and project requirement.

Manual integrations which are not performed to Accutest's specifications are set aside for corrective action, which may include analyst retraining or further investigation as necessary.

GALP Audit Trail Review. Good Automated Laboratory Practice (GALP) audits are comprehensive data package audits that include a review of raw data, process logbooks, processed data reports and GALP audit trails from individual instruments and LIMS. GALP audit trails, which record all electronic data activities, are available for the majority of computerized methodology and the laboratory information management system (LIMS). These audit trails are periodically reviewed to determine if interventions performed by technical staff constitute an appropriate action. The review is performed on a recently completed job and includes interviews with the staff who performed the analysis. Findings indicative of inappropriate interventions or data integrity issues are investigated to determine the cause and the extent of the anomaly.

Confidential Reporting Of Data Integrity Issues. Data integrity concerns may be raised by any individual to their supervisor. Employees with data integrity concerns should always discuss those concerns with their immediate supervisors as a first step unless the employee is concerned with the confidentiality of disclosing data integrity issues or is uncomfortable discussing the issue with their immediate supervisors. The supervisor makes an initial assessment of the situation to determine if the concern is related to a data integrity violation. Those issues that appear to be violations are documented by the supervisor and referred to the Director of Quality Assurance for investigation.

Documented procedures for the confidential reporting of data integrity issues in the laboratory are part of the data integrity policy. These procedures assure that laboratory staff can privately discuss ethical issues or report items of ethical concern without fears of repercussions with senior staff.

Employees with data integrity concerns that they consider to be confidential are directed to the Corporate Human Resources Manager in Dayton, New Jersey. The HR Manager acts as a conduit to arrange a private discussion between the employee and the Corporate QA Director or a local QA Officer.

During the employee - QA discussion, the QA representative evaluates the situation presented by the employee to determine if the issue is a data integrity concern or a legitimate practice. If the practice is legitimate, the QA representative clarifies the process for the employee to assure understanding. If the situation appears to be a data integrity concern, the QA representative initiates a Data Integrity Investigation following the procedures specified in SOP EQA059.

Data Integrity Investigations. Follow-up investigations are conducted for all reported instances of ethical concern related to data integrity. Investigations are performed in a confidential manner by senior management according to a documented procedure. The outcome of the investigation is documented and reported to the company president who has the ultimate responsibility for determining the final course of action in the matter. Investigation documentation includes corrective action records, client notification information and disciplinary action outcomes, which is archived for a period of five years.

The investigations are conducted by the senior staff and supervisory personnel from the affected area. The investigations team includes the Laboratory Director and the Quality Assurance Director. Investigations are conducted in a confidential manner until it is completed and resolved.

The investigation includes a review of the primary information in question by the investigations team. The team performs a review of associated data and similar historical data to determine if patterns exist. Interviews are conducted with key staff to determine the reasons for the observed practices.

Following data compilation, the investigations team reviews all information to formulate a consensus conclusion. The investigation results are documented along with the recommended course of action.

Corrective Action, Client Notification & Discipline. Investigations that reveal systematic data integrity issues will be referred for corrective action, resolution and disposition (Section 13). If the investigation indicates that an impact to data has occurred and the defective data has been released to clients, client notification procedures will be initiated following the steps in Section 17.6.

In all cases of data integrity violations, some level of disciplinary action will be conducted on the responsible individual. The level of discipline will be consistent with the violation and may range from retraining and/or verbal reprimand to termination. A zero tolerance policy is in effect for unethical actions.

4.0 JOB DESCRIPTIONS OF KEY STAFF

- 4.1 **Requirement:** Descriptions of key positions within the organization are defined to ensure that clients and staff understand duties and the responsibilities of the management staff and the reporting relationships between positions.

President/Chief Executive Officer. Responsible for all laboratory operations and business activities. Establishes the company mission and objectives in response to business needs. Direct supervision of the Vice President of Operations, each laboratory director, client services, management information systems, quality assurance and health and safety.

Vice President, Operations/Laboratory Director. Reports to the company president. Establishes laboratory operations strategy. Direct supervision of organic chemistry, inorganic chemistry, field services, and sample management. Operational responsibility for Orlando, Florida, Marlborough, Massachusetts and Houston, Texas laboratories. Assumes the responsibilities of the CEO in his absence.

Vice President, Chief Information Officer. Reports to the company president. Develops the IT software and hardware agenda. Provides system strategies to compliment company objectives. Maintains all software and hardware used for data handling.

Director, Quality Assurance. Reports to the company president. Establishes the company quality agenda, develops quality procedures, provides assistance to operations on quality procedure implementation, coordinates all quality control activities, monitors the quality system, provides quality system feedback to management to be used for process improvement and oversees health and safety. Assumes the responsibilities of the CEO in the absence of the CEO and the Vice President Operations.

Director Client Services. Reports to the company president. Establishes and maintains communications between clients and the laboratory pertaining to client requirements which are related to sample analysis and data deliverables. Initiates client orders and supervises sample login operations.

Manager, Organics (Organics Technical Director). Reports to the laboratory director. Directs the operations of the organics group, consisting of organics preparation and instrumental analysis. Establishes daily work schedule. Supervises method implementation, application, and data production. Responsible for following Quality System requirements. Maintains laboratory instrumentation in an operable condition. Assumes the responsibilities of the Vice President Operations in his absence.

Manager, Inorganics (Inorganics Technical Director). Reports to the laboratory director. Directs the operations of the inorganics group, consisting of wet chemistry and the metals laboratories. Establishes daily work schedule. Supervises method implementation, application, and data production. Responsible for following Quality System requirements. Maintains laboratory instrumentation in an operable condition. Assumes the responsibilities of the Vice President Operations in his absence.

Manager, Field Services. Reports to the laboratory director. Conducts field sampling and analysis of “analyze immediately” parameters in support of ongoing field projects. Responsible for proper collection, preservation, documentation and shipment of field samples. Maintains field sampling and field instrumentation required to perform primary responsibilities.

Manager, Sample Management. Reports to the laboratory director. Develops, maintains and executes all procedures required for receipt of samples, verification of preservation, and chain of custody documentation. Responsible for maintaining and documenting secure storage, delivery of samples to laboratory units on request and courier services.

Health & Safety Officer. Reports to the Director of Quality Assurance. Responsible for developing company safety program and chemical hygiene plan. Reviews and updates these plans annually. Responsible for employee training on relevant health and safety topics. Documents employee training. Manages laboratory waste management program.

Supervisor, Wet Chemistry. Reports to the inorganics manager. Executes daily analysis schedule. Supervises the analysis of samples for wet chemistry parameters using valid, documented methodology. Maintains instrumentation in an operable condition. Reviews data for compliance to quality and methodological requirements. Assumes the responsibilities of the Inorganics Manager in his absence.

Supervisor, Metals. Reports to the inorganics manager. Executes daily analysis schedule. Supervises the analysis of samples for metallic elements using valid, documented methodology. Documents all procedures and data production activities. Maintains instrumentation in an operable condition. Reviews data for compliance to quality and methodological requirements.

Supervisor, Organic Preparation. Reports to the organics manager. Executes the daily sample preparation schedule. Performs the extract of multi-media samples for organic constituents using valid, documented methodology. Prepares documentation for extracted samples. Assumes custody until transfer for analysis.

Technical Support Supervisor, Organics. Reports to the organic manager. Oversees all instrument maintenance and new equipment installation. Conducts method development and implementation tasks.

Assistant Manager, Organics. Reports to the organics manager. Expedites the analysis of samples and sample extracts. Executes daily analysis schedule. Supervises the analysis of samples for organic parameters using valid, documented methodology. Documents all data and data production activities. Maintains instrumentation in an operable condition. Reviews data for compliance to quality and methodological requirements. Assumes the responsibilities of the Organics Manager in his absence.

Supervisor, Report Generation. Reports to the organics manager. Compiles raw and processed sample data and assembles into client-ready reports. Initiates report scanning for archiving purposes. Maintains raw batch data in accessible storage. Mails completed reports to clients according to specified report turnaround schedule.

Quality Assurance Officers. Reports to the Director, Quality Assurance. Performs quality control data review for trend monitoring purposes. Conducts internal audits and prepares reports for management review. Oversees proficiency testing program. Process quality control data for statistical purposes. Assumes the responsibilities of the Quality Assurance Director in his absence.

4.2 **Employee Screening, Orientation, and Training.**

All potential laboratory employees are screened and interviewed by human resources and technical staff prior to their hire. The pre-screen process includes a review of their qualifications including education, training and work experience to verify that they have adequate skills to perform the tasks of the job.

Newly hired employees receive orientation training beginning the first day of employment by the Company. Orientation training consists of initial health and safety training including general laboratory safety, personal protection and building evacuation. Orientation also includes quality assurance program training, data integrity training, and an overview of the Company's goals, objectives, mission, and vision.

All technical staff receives training to develop and demonstrate proficiency for the methods they perform. New analysts work under supervision until the supervisory staff is satisfied that a thorough understanding of the method is apparent and method proficiency has been demonstrated, through a precision and accuracy study that has been documented, reviewed and approved by the QA Staff. Data from the study is compared to method acceptance limits. If the data is unacceptable, additional training is required. The analyst may also demonstrate proficiency by producing acceptable data through the analysis of an independently prepared proficiency sample.

Individual proficiency is demonstrated annually for each method performed. Data from initial and continuing proficiency demonstrations are archived in the individual's training folder.

4.3 **Training Documentation.** The human resources department prepares a training file for every new employee. All information related to qualifications, experience, external training courses, and education are placed into the file. Verification documentation for orientation, health & safety, quality assurance, and ethics training is also included in the file.

Additional training documentation is added to the file as it is developed. This includes documentation of SOP understanding, data for initial and continuing demonstrations of proficiency, performance evaluation study data and notes and attendance lists from group training sessions.

The Quality Assurance Department maintains the employee training database. This database is a comprehensive inventory of training documentation for each individual employee. The database enables supervisors to obtain current status information on training data for

individual employees on a job specific basis. It also enables the management staff to identify training documentation in need of completion.

Employee specific database records are created by human resources on the date of hire. Data base fields for job specific requirements such as SOP documentation of understanding and annual demonstration of analytical capability are automatically generated when the supervisor assigns a job responsibility. Employees acknowledge that their SOP responsibilities have been satisfied using a secure electronic process which updates the database record. Reports are produced which summarize the qualifications of individual employees or departments.

5.0 SIGNATORY APPROVALS

Requirement: Procedures have been developed for establishing the traceability of data and documents. The procedure consists of a signature hierarchy, indicating levels of authorization for signature approvals of data and information within the organization. Signature authority is granted for approval of specific actions based on positional hierarchy within the organization and knowledge of the operation that requires signature approval. A log of signatures and initials of all employees is maintained by the HR Staff for cross-referencing purposes.

5.1 **Signature Hierarchy:**

President/Chief Executive Officer. Authorization for contracts and binding agreements with outside parties. Approval of final reports, quality assurance policy, SOPs, project specific QAPs, data review and approval in lieu of technical managers. Note: Contract signature authority resides with Company officers only, which include the President/CEO, Chief Financial Officer and Vice President Administration.

Vice President, Operations/Laboratory Director. Approval of final reports and quality assurance policy in the absence of the President. Approval of SOPs, project specific QAPs, data review and approval in lieu of technical managers. Establishes and implements technical policy.

Vice President, Chief Information Officer. Department specific supplies purchase. MIS policy.

Director, Quality Assurance. Approval of final reports and quality assurance policy in the absence of the President. Approval of SOPs, project specific QAPs, data review and approval in lieu of technical managers.

Director, Client Services. QAP and sampling and analysis plan approval. Project specific contracts, pricing, and price modification agreements. Approval and acceptance of incoming work, Client services policy.

Managers, Technical Departments. Methodology and department specific QAPs. Data review and approval, department specific supplies purchase. Technical approval of SOPs.

Manager, Sample Management. Initiation of laboratory sample custody and acceptance of all samples. Approval of department policies and procedures. Department specific supplies purchase.

Manager, Health & Safety. Approval of health and safety policy in the absence of the President and QA Director. Approval of health and safety SOPs. Waste manifesting and approval.

Assistant Managers: Technical Departments. Data review approval, purchasing of expendable supplies.

Supervisor, Field Services. Sampling plan design and approval. Data review for field parameters. State form certification. Department policies and procedures. Department specific supplies purchase.

Supervisors, Technical Departments. Data review approval, purchasing of expendable supplies.

- 5.2 **Signature Requirements.** All laboratory activities related to sample custody and generation or release of data must be approved using either initials, signatures or electronic, password protected procedures. The individual, who applies his signature initial or password to an activity or document, is authorized to do so within the limits assigned to them by their supervisor. All written signatures and initials must be applied in a readable format that can be cross-referenced to the signatures and initials log if necessary.
- 5.3 **Signature and Initials Log.** The HR group maintains a signature and initials log. New employee signatures and initials are appended to the log on the first day of employment. Signature of individuals no longer employed by the company are retained, but annotated with their date of termination.

6.0 DOCUMENTATION & DOCUMENT CONTROL

Requirement: Document control policies have been established which specify that any document used as an information source or for recording analytical or quality control information must be managed using defined document control procedures. Accordingly, policies and procedures required for the control, protection, and storage of any information related to the production of analytical data and the operation of the quality system to assure its integrity and traceability have been established and implemented in the laboratory. The system contains sufficient controls for managing, archiving and reconstructing all process steps which contributed to the generation of an analytical test result. Using this system, an audit trail for reported data can be produced, establishing complete traceability for the result.

- 6.1 **Administrative Records.** Administrative (non-analytical) records are managed by the quality assurance department. These records consist of electronic documents which are retained in a limited access electronic directory or paper documents, which are released to the technical staff upon specific request.

Form Generation, Modification & Control. The quality assurance group approves and manages all forms used as either stand-alone documents or in logbooks to ensure their traceability. Forms are generated as computer files only and are maintained in a limited access master directory. The QA staff also manages and approves modifications to existing forms. Obsolete editions of modified forms are retained for seven years.

Approved forms are assigned a 5-character alphanumeric code. The first two alpha characters designate the department that uses the form; the next three digits are sequentially assigned number.

New forms must include the name Accutest Laboratories and appropriate spaces for signatures of approval and dates. Further design specifications are the responsibility of the originating department.

The technical staff is required to complete all forms to the maximum extent possible. If information for a specific item is unavailable, the analyst is required to “Z” the information block. The staff is also required to “Z” the uncompleted portions of a logbook or logbook form if the day’s analysis does not fill the entire page of the form.

Logbook Control. All laboratory logbooks are controlled documents that are comprised of approved forms used to document specific processes. New logs are numbered and issued to a specific individual who is assigned responsibility for the log. Old logs are returned to QA for entry into the document archive system where they are retained for seven (7) years. Laboratory staff may hold a maximum of two consecutively dated logbooks of the same type in the laboratory including the most recently issued book to simplify review of recently completed analysis.

Controlled Documents. Key laboratory documents that are distributed internally and externally are numbered for tracking purposes. Individuals receiving documents, who must be

informed when changes occur receive controlled copies of those documents. Controlled status simplifies document updates and retrieval of outdated documents. Control is maintained through a document numbering procedure and document control logbook which identifies the individual receiving the controlled document and the date of receipt. Key documents are also distributed as uncontrolled documents if the recipient does not require updated copies when changes occur. Key documents in uncontrolled status are numbered and tracked using the same procedures as controlled documents.

Quality Systems Manual (QSM). All QSMs are assigned a number prior to distribution. The number, date of distribution, and identity of the individual receiving the document are recorded in the document control logbook. The numbering system is restarted with each new volume, which corresponds to the annual revision of the QSM. Electronic versions are distributed as read only files that are password protected.

Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs). SOPs are maintained by pre-designating the numbers of official copies of documents that are placed into circulation within the laboratory. Official documents are copied to green paper and placed into the appropriate laboratory section as follows:

Administrative: One master copy for the administrative file.

Sample Management: One controlled green copy for the sample management file.

Organics Laboratories: Two controlled green copies, one for the affected laboratory area, and one for the organics laboratory file.

Inorganics Laboratories: Two controlled green copies, one for the affected laboratory area, and one for the inorganics laboratory file.

Field Services: One controlled green copy for each field sampling team (generally a single field technician).

The original, signed copy of the SOP is maintained in the master SOP binder by the QA staff. The QA staff collects outdated versions of SOPs as they are replaced and archived for a period of seven (7) years in the QA archives. Electronic versions of outdated SOPs are moved from the active SOP directory to the inactive directory.

- 6.2 Technical Records.** All records related to the analysis of samples and the production of an analytical result are archived in secure document storage or on electronic media and contain sufficient detail to produce an audit trail which re-creates the analytical result. These records include information related to the original client request, bottle order, sample login and custody, storage, sample preparation, analysis, data review and data reporting.

Each department involved in this process maintains controlled documents which enable them to maintain records of critical information relevant to their department's process.

- 6.3 Quality Control Support Data & Records.** All information and data related to the quality system is stored in a restricted access directory on the network server. Information on this directory is backed-up daily. Users of the quality assurance information and data have “read-only” access to the files contained in the directory. The QA staff and the laboratory director have write capability in this directory.

This directory contains all current and archived quality system manuals, SOPs, control limits, MDL studies, precision and accuracy data, official forms, internal audit reports, proficiency test scores and metrics calibration information.

The following information is retained in the directory:

Quality System Manuals	Inactive Standard Operating Procedures
Standard Operating Procedures	Method Detection Limit Data
ASTM & NIST Methods	Metrics Inventory & Calibration Data
Bottleware & Preservative QC Data	Microbiology Reagent Data
Certification Documentation	Performance Limits
Change Management Data	Proficiency Test Scores & Statistics
External Audit Reports	Project Specific Analytical Requirements
Internal Audit Reports	QC Report Reviews
Corrective Action Database	Regulatory Agency Quality Documents
Laboratory Forms Directory	Staff Bios And Job Descriptions
Health & Safety Manuals	State Specific Methods

- 6.4 Analytical Records.** All data related to the analysis of field samples are retained as either paper or electronic records that can be retrieved to compile a traceable audit trail for any reported result. All information is linked to the client job and sample number, which serves as a reference for all sample related information tracking.

Critical times in the life of the sample from collection through analysis to disposal are documented. This includes date and time of collection, receipt by the laboratory, preparation times and dates, analysis times and dates and data reporting information. Analysis times are calculated in hours for methods where holding time is specified in hours (≤ 72 hours).

Sample preparation information is recorded in a separate controlled logbook. It includes sample identification numbers, types of analysis, preparation and cleanup methods, sample weights and volumes, reagent lot numbers and volumes and any other information pertinent to the preparation procedure.

Information related to the identification of the instrument used for analysis is permanently attached to the electronic record. The record includes an electronic data file that indicates all instrument conditions employed for the analysis, including the type of analysis conducted. The analyst's identification is electronically attached to the record. The instrument tuning and calibration data is electronically linked to the sample or linked through paper logs which were used in the documentation of the analysis. Quality control and performance criteria are permanently linked to the paper archive or electronic file.

Paper records for the identity, receipt, preparation and evaluation of all standards and reagents used in the analysis are documented in prepared records and maintained in controlled documents or files. Lot number information linking these materials to the analysis performed is recorded in the logbooks associated with the samples in which they were used.

Manual calculations or peak integrations that were performed during the data review are retained as paper or scanned documents and included as part of the electronic archive. Signatures for data review are retained on paper or as scanned versions of the paper record for the permanent electronic file.

- 6.5 **Confidential Business Information (CBI).** Operational documents including SOPs, Quality Manuals, personnel information, internal operations statistics, and laboratory audit reports are considered confidential business information. Strict controls are placed on the release of this information to outside parties.

Release of CBI to outside parties or organizations may be authorized upon execution of a confidentiality agreement between Accutest and the receiving organization or individual. CBI information release is authorized for third party auditors and commercial clients in electronic mode as Adobe Acrobat .PDF format only.

- 6.6 **Software Change Documentation & Control.** Changes to software are documented as text within the code of the program undergoing change. Documentation includes a description of the change, reason for change and the date the change was placed into effect. Documentation indicating the adequacy of the change is prepared following the evaluation by the user who requested the change.

- 6.7 **Report and Data Archiving.** Accutest Laboratories produces digital files of all raw and processed data which is maintained for a minimum period of seven (7) years. The archived files consist of all raw data files and source documents associated with the analysis of field samples and proficiency test samples. Data files and source documents associated with method calibration and project and method quality control are also archived. After seven years, the files are discarded unless contractual arrangements exist which dictate different requirements. Client or regulatory agency specific data retention practices are employed for several government organizations such as the Department of Defense and the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection that require a retention period of ten (10) years. Data archiving may also be extended up to ten (10) years for specific commercial clients in response to contractual requirements.

Complete date and time stamped PDF reports are generated automatically from the laboratory information management system (LIMS) using the source documents archived on the document server. These source documents are maintained on a document server and archived to primary and clone tapes. The primary tapes remain on premises while the clone tapes are taken to a secure offsite location for permanent storage. Both the primary and clone tapes remain in storage for the remainder of the archive period.

- 6.8 **Training:** The company maintains a training record for all employees that documents that they have received instruction on administrative and technical tasks that are required for the job they perform. Training records for individuals employed by the company are retained for a period of six months following their termination of employment.

Training File Origination: The Human Resources Group (HR) initiates training files. The QA staff, through the Assistant Quality Assurance officer, retains the responsibility for the maintenance and tracking of all training related documentation in the file. The file is begun on the first day of employment. Information required for the file includes a copy of the individual's most current resume, detailing work experience and a copy of any college diplomas and transcript(s). Information added on the first day includes documentation of health and safety training, quality assurance training and a signed data integrity training and ethical conduct agreement.

Training documentation, training requirements, analyst proficiency information and other training related support documentation is tracked using a customized database application (Section 4.3). Database extracts provide an itemized listing of specific training requirements by job function. Training status summaries for individual analysts portray dates of completion for job specific training requirements.

- 6.9 **Technical Training:** The supervisor of each new employee is responsible for developing a training plan for each new employee. The supervisor evaluates the employees training progress at regular frequencies. Supporting documentation, including demonstration of capability and precision and accuracy studies, which demonstrate an analyst's proficiency for a specific test, are added to the training file as completed. Employees and supervisors verify documentation of understanding (DOU) for all assigned standard operating procedures in the training database. Certificates or diplomas for any off-site training are also added to the file.

7.0 REFERENCE STANDARD TRACEABILITY

Requirement: Documented procedures, which establish traceability between any measured value and a national reference standard, are established by the laboratory as required. All metric measurements are traceable to NIST reference weights or thermometers that are calibrated on a regular schedule. All chemicals used for calibration of a quantitative process are traceable to an NIST reference that is documented by the vendor using a certificate of traceability. The laboratory maintains a documentation system that establishes the traceability links. The procedures for verifying and documenting traceability are documented in standard operating procedures.

7.1 **Traceability of Metric Measurements - Thermometers.** Accutest uses NIST thermometers to calibrate commercially purchased thermometers prior to their use in the laboratory and annually thereafter for liquid in glass thermometers or quarterly for electronic temperature measuring devices.. If necessary, thermometers are assigned correction factors that are determined during their calibration using an NIST thermometer as the standard. The correction factor is documented in a thermometer calibration database and on a tag attached to the thermometer. The correction factor is applied to temperature measurements before recording the measurement in the temperature log. Calibration of each thermometer is verified and documented on a regular schedule. The NIST thermometer is checked for accuracy by a qualified vendor every five (5) years following the specifications for NIST thermometer calibration verification detailed in the United States Environmental Protection Agency's "Manual for the Certification of Laboratories Analyzing Drinking Water", Fifth Edition, January 2005.

7.2 **Traceability of Metric Measurements – Calibration Weights.** Accutest uses calibrated weights, which are traceable to NIST standard weights to calibrate all balances used in the laboratory. Balances are calibrated to specific tolerances within the intended use range of the balance. Calibration checks are required on each day of use. If the tolerance criteria are not achieved, corrective action specified in the balance calibration SOP is applied before the balance can be used for laboratory measurements. Recalibration of all calibration weights is conducted and documented on a biannual basis.

7.3 **Traceability of Chemical Standards.** All chemicals, with the exception of bulk dry chemicals and acids, purchased as reference standards for use in method calibration must establish traceability to NIST referenced material through a traceability certificate. Process links are established that enable a calibration standard solution to be traced to its NIST reference certificate.

Chemical standards used for analysis must meet the purity specifications of the method. These specifications must be stated in the reagents section of the method SOP.

7.4 **Assignment of Reagent and Standard Expiration Dates.** Expiration date information for all purchased standards, prepared standard solutions and selected reagents is provided to Accutest by the vendor as a condition of purchase. Neat materials and inorganic reagents are not required to be purchased with expiration dates. Prepared solutions are labeled with the

expiration date provided by the manufacturer. In-house prepared solutions are assigned expiration dates that are consistent with the method that employs their use unless documented experience indicates that an alternate date can be applied. If alternate expiration dates are employed, their use is documented in the method SOP. Expiration dates for prepared inorganic reagents, which have not exhibited instability, are established at two years from the date of preparation for tracking purposes.

The earliest expiration date has been established as the limiting date for assigning expiration dates to prepared solutions. The assignment of expiration dates that are later than the expiration date of any derivative solution or material are prohibited.

- 7.5** **Documentation of Traceability.** Traceability information is documented in individual logbooks designated for specific measurement processes. The quality assurance group maintains calibration documentation for metric references in separate logbooks.

Balance calibration verification is documented in logbooks that are assigned to each balance. The individual conducting the calibration is required to initial and date all calibration activities. Any defects that occur during calibration are also documented along with the corrective action applied and a demonstration of return to control. Annual service reports and certificates are retained on file by the QA staff.

Temperature control is documented in logbooks assigned to the equipment being monitored. A calibrated thermometer is assigned to each individual item. Uncorrected and corrected measurements are recorded along with date and initials of the individual conducting the measurement on a daily or as used basis. Corrective action, if required, is also documented including the demonstration of return to control.

Initial traceability of chemical standards is documented via a vendor-supplied certificate (not available for bulk dry chemicals and acids) that includes lot number, expiration date and certified concentration information. Solutions prepared using the vendor supplied chemical standards are documented in logbooks assigned to specific analytical processes. Alternatively, documentation may be entered into the electronic standards and reagent tracking log. The documentation includes links to the vendor's lot number, an internal lot number, dates of preparation, expiration date, and the preparer's initials.

Accutest employs commercially prepared standard solutions whose traceability can be demonstrated through a vendor supplied certificate of analysis that includes an experimental verification of the standard's true concentration. The test value for the verification analysis must agree within 1% of the vendor's true value before it can be employed for calibration purposes. If the test value differs from the nominal value by more than 1%, then the test value is used as the true value in laboratory calibrations and calculations. Purchased standards which do not have a certificate of analysis cannot be used for calibration or calibration verification purposes and are rejected or returned to the vendor.

Supervisors conduct regular reviews of logbooks, which are verified using a signature and date.

8.0 TEST PROCEDURES, METHOD REFERENCES, AND REGULATORY PROGRAMS

Requirements: The laboratory employs client specified or regulatory agency approved methods for the analysis of environmental samples. A list of active methods is maintained, which specifies the type of analyses performed and cross-references the methods to applicable environmental regulations. Routine procedures used by the laboratory for the execution of a method are documented in standard operating procedures. Method performance and sensitivity are demonstrated annually where required. Defined procedures for the use of method sensitivity limits for data reporting purposes are established by the Director of Quality Assurance and used consistently for all data reporting purposes.

- 8.1 **Method Selection & Application.** Accutest employs methods for environmental sample analysis that are consistent with the client's application, which are appropriate and applicable to the project objectives. Accutest informs the client if the method proposed is inappropriate or outdated and suggests alternative approaches.

Accutest employs documented, validated regulatory methods in the absence of a client specification and informs the client of the method selected. These methods are available to the client and other parties as determined by the client. Documented and validated in-house methods may be applied if they are appropriate to the project. The client is informed of the method selection.

- 8.2 **Standard Operating Procedures.** Standard operating procedures (SOP) are prepared for routine methods executed by the laboratory, processes related to laboratory operations and sample or data handling. All SOPs are formatted to meet the specifications established by the National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Conference, which are detailed in Chapter Five – Quality Systems of the established Standards. The procedures describe the process steps in sufficient detail to enable an individual, who is unfamiliar with the procedure to execute it successfully.

SOPs are evaluated annually and edited if necessary. Reviewed SOPs that do not require modification include an evaluation summary form indicating that an evaluation was conducted and modifications were not needed. SOPs can be edited on a more frequent basis if changes are required for any reason. These may include a change to the methodology, elimination of systematic errors that dictate a need for process changes or modifications to incorporate a new version of the method promulgated by the originating regulatory agency. Procedural modifications are indicated using a revision number. SOPs are available for client review at the Accutest facility upon request.

The complete list of the laboratories SOPs available as of the date of publication of this QSM version are detailed in Appendix II.

- 8.3 **Method Validation.** Standard methods from regulatory sources are primarily used for all analysis. Standard methods do not require validation by the laboratory. Non-standard, in-house methods are validated prior to use. Validation is also performed for standard methods

applied outside their intended scope of use. Validation is dependent upon the method application and may include analysis of quality control samples to develop precision and accuracy information for the intended use. A final method validation report is generated, which includes all data in the validation study. A statement of adequacy and/or equivalency is included in the report. A copy of the report is archived in the quality assurance directory of the company server.

Non-standard methods are validated prior to use. This includes the validation of modified standard methods to demonstrate comparability with existing methods. Demonstrations and validations are performed and documented prior to incorporating technological enhancements and non standard methods into existing laboratory methods used for general applications. The demonstration includes method specific requirements for assuring that significant performance differences do not occur when the enhancement is incorporated into the method. Validation is dependent upon method application and may include the analysis of quality control samples to develop precision and accuracy information for intended use.

The study procedures and specifications for demonstrating validation include comparable method sensitivity, calibration response, method precision, method accuracy and field sample consistency for several classes of analytical methods are detailed in this document. These procedures and specifications may vary depending upon the method and the modification.

8.4 Estimated Uncertainty. A statement of the estimated uncertainty of an analytical measurement accompanies the test result when required. Estimated uncertainty is derived from the performance limits established for spiked samples of similar matrices. The degree of uncertainty is derived from the negative or positive bias for spiked samples accompanying a specific parameter. When the uncertainty estimate is applied to a measured value, the possible quantitative range for that specific parameter at that measured concentration is defined. Well recognized regulatory methods that specify values for the major sources of uncertainty and specify the data reporting format do not require a further estimate of uncertainty.

8.5 Demonstration of Capability. Confirmation testing is conducted to demonstrate that the laboratory is capable of performing the method before its application to the analysis of environmental samples. The results of the demonstration tests are compared to the quality control specifications of the method to determine if the performance is acceptable.

Capability demonstrations are conducted initially for each method on every instrument and annually on a method specific basis thereafter. Acceptable demonstrations are documented for individual training files and retained by the QA staff. New analytes, which are added to the list of analytes for an accredited method, are evaluated for applicability through a demonstration of capability similar to those performed for accredited analytes.

8.6 Method Detection Limit Determination. Annual method detection limit (MDL) studies are performed as appropriate for routine methods used in the laboratory. MDL studies are also performed when there is a change to the method that affects how the method is performed or when an instrumentation change that impacts sensitivity occurs. The procedure used for determining MDLs is described in 40 CFR, Part 136, Appendix B. Studies are performed for

each method on water, soil and air matrices for every instrument that is used to perform the method. MDLs are established at the instrument level. The highest MDL of the pooled instrument data is used to establish a laboratory MDL. MDLs are experimentally verified through the analysis of spiked quality control samples at 2-4 times the concentration of the experimental MDL. The verification is performed on every instrument used to perform the analysis. The quality assurance staff manages the annual MDL determination process and is responsible for retaining MDL data on file. Approved MDLs are appended to the LIMS and used for data reporting purposes.

- 8.7 **Instrument Detection Limit Determination.** Instrument detection limits (IDLs) are determined for all inductively coupled argon plasma emission spectrophotometers and mass spectrometers. The IDL is determined for the wavelength (emission) of each element and the ion (mass spectrometry) of each element used for sample analysis. The IDL data is used to estimate instrument sensitivity in the absence of the sample matrix. IDL determinations are conducted at the frequency specified in the appropriate SOPs' for ICP and ICP/MS analysis.
- 8.8 **Method Reporting Limit.** The method reporting limit for organic methods is determined by the concentration of the lowest calibration standard in the calibration curve. This value is adjusted based on several sample preparation factors including sample volume, moisture content (soils), digestion, distillation or dilution. The low calibration standard is selected by department managers as the lowest concentration standard that can be used for calibration while continuing to meet the calibration linearity criteria of the method being used. The validity of the method reporting limits are confirmed through the analysis of a spiked quality control sample at the method reporting limit concentration. By definition, detected analytes at concentrations below the low calibration standard cannot be accurately quantitated and are qualified as estimated values.

The reporting limit for inorganics methods is defined as the concentration which is greater than or equal to the MDL where method quality control criteria has been achieved. The reporting limit for general chemistry methods employing multiple point calibrations must be greater than or equal to the concentration of the lowest standard of the calibration range.

- 8.9 **Reporting of Quantitative Data.** Analytical data for all methods is reported without qualification to the reporting limit established for each method. Data, for organic methods may be reported to the established method detection limit depending upon the client's requirements provided that all qualitative identification criteria for the detected parameter have been satisfied. All parameters reported at concentrations between the reporting limit and the method detection limit are qualified as estimated.

Data for inorganic methods are reported to the established method reporting limits. Inorganic data for specific methods may also be reported to the established method detection limit at client request. However, this data is always qualified as estimated.

Measured concentrations of detected analytes that exceed the upper limit of the calibration range are either diluted into the range and reanalyzed or qualified as an estimated value. The

only exception to this applies to ICP and ICP/MS analysis, which can be reported to the upper limit of the experimentally determined linear range without qualification.

8.10 Precision and Accuracy Studies. Annual precision and accuracy (P&A) studies, which demonstrate the laboratories ability to generate acceptable data, are performed for all routine methods used in the laboratory. The procedure used for generating organic P&A data is referenced in the majority of the regulatory methodology in use. The procedure requires quadruplicate analysis of a sample spiked with target analytes at a concentration in the working range of the method. This data may be compiled from a series of existing blank spikes or laboratory control samples. Accuracy (percent recovery) of the replicate analysis is averaged and compared to established method performance limits. Values within method limits indicate an acceptable performance demonstration. Precision and accuracy data is also used to annually demonstrate analytical capability for individual analysts. Annual demonstration of capability data is archived in individual training files.

8.11 Method Sources & References. The Quality Assurance Staff maintains a list of active methods used for the analysis of samples. This list includes valid method references from sources such as USEPA, ASTM or Standard Methods designations and the current version and version date.

Updated versions of approved reference methodology are placed into use as changes occur. The Quality Assurance Director informs operations management of changes in method versions as they occur. The operations management staff selects an implementation date. The operations staff is responsible for completing all method use requirements prior to the implementation date. This includes modification of SOPs, completion of MDL and precision and accuracy studies and staff training. Documentation of these activities is provided to the QA staff who retains this information on file. The updated method is placed into service on the implementation date and the old version is de-activated.

Multiple versions of selected methods may remain in use to satisfy client specific needs. In these situations, the default method version becomes the most recent version. Client specific needs are communicated to the laboratory staff using method specific analytical method codes, which clearly depict the version to be used. The old method version is maintained as an active method until the specified client no longer requires the use of the older version.

Accutest will not use methodology that represents significant departures from the reference method unless specifically directed by the client. If clients direct the laboratory to use a method modification that represents a significant departure from the reference method, the request will be documented in the project file.

8.12 Analytical Capabilities. Appendix III provides a detailed listing of the methodology employed for the analysis of test samples.

9.0 SAMPLING, SAMPLE MANAGEMENT, LOGIN, CUSTODY, STORAGE AND DISPOSAL

Requirement: The laboratory must employ a system which ensures that client supplied product or supplied product (the sample) is adequately evaluated, acknowledged, and secured upon delivery to the laboratory. The system also assures that product chain of custody is maintained and that sample receipt conditions and preservation status are documented and communicated to the client and internal staff. The login procedure assigns, documents, and maps the specifications for the analysis of each unique sample to assure that the requested analysis is performed on the correct sample and enables the sample to be tracked throughout the laboratory analytical cycle. The system includes procedures for reconciling defects in sample condition or client provided data, which are identified at sample arrival. The system specifies the procedures for proper sample storage, transfer to the laboratory, and disposal after analysis. The system is also documented in standard operating procedures.

- 9.1 **Order Receipt and Entry:** New orders are initiated and processed by the client services group (See Chapter 14, Procedures for Executing Client Specifications). The new order procedure includes mechanisms for providing bottles to clients, which meet the size, cleanliness, and preservation specifications for the analysis to be performed.

For new orders, the project manager prepares a bottle request form, which is submitted to sample management. This form provides critical project details to the sample management staff, which are used to prepare and assemble the sample bottles for shipment to the client prior to sampling.

The bottle order is assembled using bottles that meet USEPA specifications for contaminant free sample containers. Accutest uses a combination of commercially supplied pre-cleaned bottles and bottles that have been tested for residual contamination and verified to meet USEPA specifications prior to use. Sterile bottles for microbiological samples are purchased from commercial sources.

Bottles, which are not purchased pre-cleaned, are checked to assure that they are free of contamination from targeted analytes before being released for use. Sterile bottles are checked for contamination with each lot. The QA staff retains a copy of the documentation of in-house contamination and sterility checks and maintains the responsibility for approving and releasing bottle lots for use following a review of the check data.

Preservative solutions that are specified for the analysis requested are dispensed into the sample bottle prior to shipment. All preservative solutions are prepared in the laboratory or purchased from commercial suppliers. Each solution is checked to assure that it is free of contamination from the compounds being analyzed before being released for use.

Reagent water for trip and field blanks is poured into appropriately labeled containers. All bottles are packed into ice chests with blank chain of custody forms and the original bottle order form. Completed bottle orders are delivered to clients using Accutest couriers or commercial carriers for use in field sample collection.

9.2 Sampling. Documented procedures are employed by the field staff for field sample collection and are accessible during sample collection activities. Field activities are documented in controlled notebooks which detail relevant field conditions, site data and the results of field measurements. Appropriate custody procedures for collected samples are initiated by the field staff at the time of sample collection. Samples are documented, labeled and preserved according to the specifications of the method and/or regulatory program prior to being shipped to the laboratory.

9.3 Sample Receipt and Custody. Samples are delivered to the laboratory using a variety of mechanisms including Accutest couriers, commercial shippers, and client self-delivery. Documented procedures are followed for arriving samples to assure that custody and integrity are maintained and handling/ preservation requirements are documented and maintained.

Sample custody documentation is initiated when the individual collecting the sample collects field samples. Custody documentation includes all information necessary to provide an unambiguous record of sample collection, sample identification, and sample collection chronology. Initial custody documentation employs either Accutest or client generated custody forms.

Accutest generates a chain of custody in situations where the individuals who collected the sample did not generate custody documentation in the field.

Accutest defines sample custody as follows:

- ∴ The sample is in the actual custody or possession of the assigned responsible person,
- ∴ The sample is in a secure area.

The Accutest facility is defined as a secure facility. Perimeter security has been established, which limits access to authorized individuals only. Visitors enter the facility through the building lobby and must register with the receptionist prior to entering controlled areas. While in the facility, visitors are required to wear a visitor's badge and must be accompanied by their hosts at all times. After hours, building access is controlled using a computerized passkey reader system. This system limits building access to individuals with a pre-assigned authorization status. After hours visitors are not authorized to be in the building. Clients delivering samples after hours must make advanced arrangements through client services and sample management to assure that staff is available to take delivery and maintain custody.

Upon arrival at Accutest, the sample custodian reviews the chain of custody for the samples received to verify that the information on the form corresponds with the samples delivered. This includes verification that all listed samples are present and properly labeled, checks to verify that samples were transported and received at the required temperature, verification that the sample was received in proper containers, verification that sufficient volume is available to conduct the requested analysis, and a check of individual sample containers to verify test

specific preservation requirements including the absence of headspace for volatile compound analysis.

Sample conditions and other observations are documented on the chain of custody by the sample custodian prior to completing acceptance of custody and in an online database that creates a permanent record of all sample login activities. The sample custodian accepts sample custody upon verification that the custody document is correct. Discrepancies or non-compliant situations are documented and communicated to the Accutest project manager, who contacts the client for resolution. The resolution is documented and communicated to sample management for execution.

The sample management staff maintains an electronic sample receipt log. This log details all sample-related information in a searchable database that is updated upon data entry and backed up daily. The log records include critical date information, numbers of samples, numbers of bottles for each parameter, descriptions of bottles for each parameter, preservation conditions, bottle refrigerator location, and bottle conditions. Data entry into the log is secured using individual passwords.

During initial login, each bottle is assigned a unique number and is labeled with a barcode corresponding to that number. A bar-coding and scanning system electronically tracks sample custody transfers between individuals within the laboratory. Internal custody documentation may be required for compliance with regulatory agency or contractual specifications. A documented, chronological record of each sample transfer identifying each individual having possession of the sample is created in the laboratory information management system, which can be printed and included in data reports to demonstrate continuous custody.

- 9.4 **Laboratory Preservation of Improperly Preserved Field Samples.** Accutest will attempt to preserve field samples that were received without proper preservation to the extent that it is feasible and supported by the methods in use. Laboratory preservation of improperly preserved or handled field samples is routinely performed for metals samples. Special handling procedures may also be applied to improperly preserved volatile organics.

Aqueous metals samples that were not nitric acid preserved to pH 2 in the field are laboratory preserved and held for twenty (24) hours to equilibrate prior to analysis. Aqueous metals samples requiring field filtration may be filtered in the laboratory within seventy-two (72) hours of receipt provided that the sample has not been acid preserved.

Unpreserved volatile organics samples may be analyzed within seven (7) days to minimize degradation of volatile organics if the laboratory is notified in advance of the failure to preserve upon collection. Laboratory preservation of unpreserved aqueous samples is not possible. A pH check of volatile organic samples prior to analysis will compromise the sample by allowing volatile organics to escape during the check. If the laboratory is not notified of the failure to field preserve an aqueous volatile organic sample, the defect will not be identified until sample analysis has been completed and the data is qualified accordingly.

- 9.5 **Sample Tracking Via Status Change.** An automated, electronic LIMS procedure records sample exchange transactions between departments and changes in analytical status. This system tracks all preparation, analytical, and data reporting procedures to which a sample is subjected while in the possession of the laboratory. Each individual receiving samples must acknowledge the change in custody and operational status in the LIMS. This step is required to maintain an accurate electronic record of sample status, dates of analytical activity, and custody throughout the laboratory.

Sample tracking is initiated at login where all chronological information related to sample collection dates and holding times are entered into the LIMS. This information is entered on an individual sample basis.

- 9.6 **Sample Acceptance Policy.** Incoming samples must satisfy Accutest's sample acceptance criteria before being logged into the system. Sample acceptance is based on the premise that clients have exercised proper protocols for sample collection. This includes complete documentation, sufficient volume, proper chemical preservation, temperature preservation, sample container sealing and labeling, and appropriate shipping container packing.

The sample management staff will make every attempt to preserve improperly preserved samples upon arrival. However, if preservation is not possible, the samples may be refused unless the client authorizes analysis. No samples will be accepted if holding times have been exceeded or will be exceeded before analysis can take place unless the client authorizes analysis.

Sample acceptance criteria include proper custody and sample labeling documentation. Proper custody documentation includes an entry for all physical samples delivered to the laboratory with an identification code that matches the sample bottle and a date and signature of the individual who collected the sample and delivered them to the laboratory.

Accutest reserves the right to refuse any sample which in its sole and absolute discretion and judgment is hazardous, toxic and poses or may pose a health, safety or environmental risk during handling or processing. The company will not accept samples for analysis using methodology that is not performed by the laboratory or for methods that lab does not hold valid accreditations unless arrangements have been made to have the analysis conducted by a qualified subcontractor.

- 9.7 **Assignment of Unique Sample Identification Codes.** Unique identification codes are assigned to each sample bottle to assure traceability and unambiguously identify the tests to be performed in the laboratory.

The sample identification coding process begins with the assignment of a unique alphanumeric job number. A job is defined as a group of samples received on the same day, from a specific client pertaining to a specific project. A job may consist of groups of samples received over a multi-day period. The first character of the job number is an alpha-character that identifies the laboratory facility. The next characters are numeric and sequence by one number with each new job.

Unique sample numbers are assigned to each bottle collected as a discrete entity from a designated sample point. This number begins with the job number and incorporates a second series of numbers beginning at one and continuing chronologically for each point of collection. The test to be performed is clearly identified on the bottle label. Multiple sample bottles collected for analysis of the same parameter are numbered bottle 1, 2, ... etc.

Alpha suffixes may be added to the sample number to identify special designations such as subcontracted tests, in-house QC checks, or re-logs. Multiple sample bottles for a specific analysis are labeled Bottle 1, Bottle 2, etc.

- 9.8 Subcontracted Analysis.** Subcontract laboratories are employed to perform analysis not performed by Accutest. The quality assurance staff evaluates subcontract laboratories to assure their quality processes meet the standards of the environmental laboratory industry prior to engagement. Throughout the subcontract process, Accutest follows established procedures to assure that sample custody is maintained and the data produced by the subcontractor meets established quality criteria.

Subcontracting Procedure. Subcontracting procedures are initiated through several mechanisms, which originate with sample management. Samples for analysis by a subcontractor are logged into the Accutest system using regular login procedures. If subcontract parameters are part of the project or sample management has received subcontracting instructions for a specific project, a copy of the chain of custody is given to the appropriate project manager with the subcontracted parameters highlighted. This procedure triggers the subcontract process at the project management level. The project manager contacts an approved subcontractor that carries accreditation in the venue of the project location to place the subcontract order. A subcontract order form (SOF) is simultaneously prepared in electronic format, by the project manager and filed with the original chain of custody. The SOF and the subcontract chain of custody are forwarded to sample management, via E-Mail, for processing. A copy is filed with the original CoC.

Sample management signs the subcontract chain of custody and ships the sample(s) to the subcontractor. The subcontract CoC is filed with the original CoC and the request for subcontract. Copies are distributed to the login department, the project manager, sample management and the client.

Clients are verbally notified of the need to subcontract analysis as soon as the need is identified by the client services staff. This may occur during the initial project setup or at the time of login if the project setup had not been initiated through the client services staff. Copies of the subcontract CoC and the original CoC, which are electronically distributed to clients, constitutes documented client notification of the laboratories intent to subcontract analysis.

Subcontractor data packages are reviewed by the QA Staff to assess completeness and quality compliance. If completeness defects are detected, the subcontractor is asked to immediately upgrade the data package. If data quality defects are detected, the QA staff retains the package for further review. The QA staff will pursue a corrective action solution before releasing defective data to the client.

Approved subcontract data is entered into the laboratory information management system (LIMS) if possible and incorporated into the final report. All subcontract data is footnoted to provide the client with a clear indication of its source. Copies of original subcontract data are included in the data report depending on the reporting level specified by the client. Applicable subcontractor accreditation information is provided with the subcontractor data.

Subcontract Laboratory Evaluation. The QA staff evaluates subcontract laboratories prior to engagement. The subcontract laboratory must provide Accutest with proof of a valid certification to perform the requested analysis for the venue where they were collected, a copy of the laboratory's Quality Systems Manual, copies of SOPs used for the subcontracted analysis, a copy of the most recent performance evaluation study for the subcontracted parameter, copies of the internal data integrity policy and copies of the most recent regulatory agency or third party accreditor audit report. Certification verification, audit reports and performance evaluation data must be submitted to Accutest annually. If possible, the QA staff may conduct a site visit to the laboratory to inspect the quality system. Accutest Laboratories assumes the responsibility for the performance of all subcontractors who have successfully demonstrated their qualifications. Qualification of a subcontract laboratory may be bypassed if the primary client directs Accutest to employ a specific subcontractor.

- 9.9** **Sample Storage.** Following sample transfer to the sample custodian, samples are assigned to various secured, refrigerated storage areas depending upon the test to be performed and the matrix of the samples. The location (refrigerator and shelf) of each sample is recorded on the chain of custody adjacent to the line corresponding to each sample number and also entered into the LIMS. Samples remain in storage until the laboratory technician requests that they be transferred into the laboratory for analysis.

Second shift staff is authorized to retrieve samples from storage and initiate custody transfer. All sample request forms must be completed regardless of who performs the transfer.

Samples for volatile organics analysis are placed in storage in designated refrigerators by the sample custodian and immediately transferred to the organics group control. Sample custody is transferred to the department designee. These samples are segregated according to matrix to limit opportunities for cross contamination to occur.

Organics staff is authorized to retrieve samples from these storage areas for analysis. When analysis is complete, the samples are placed back into storage.

- 9.10** **Sample Login.** Following sample custody transfer to the laboratory, the documentation that describes the clients analytical requirements are delivered to the sample login group for coding and entry to the Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS). This process translates all information related to collection time, turnaround time, sample analysis, and deliverables into a code which enables client requirements to be electronically distributed to the various departments within the laboratory for scheduling and execution.

The technical staff is alerted to client or project specific requirements through the use of a unique project code that is electronically attached to the job during login. The unique project code directs the technical staff to controlled specifications documents detailing the unique requirements.

- 9.11 **Sample Retrieval for Analysis.** Individual laboratory departments prepare and submit written requests to the sample custodian to retrieve samples for analysis. The sample custodian retrieves all samples except volatile organics and delivers them to the requesting department. Retrieval priorities are established by the requesting department and submitted to the sample custodian when multiple requests are submitted. Internal custody transfers using the bar code scanning system occur whenever the samples change hands or locations.

After sample analysis has been completed, the department requests pick-up and return of the sample to the storage area. The sample custodian retrieves the sample and completes the custody transfer from the department of the transfer back to sample management or sample storage.

- 9.12 **Sample Disposal.** Accutest retains all samples and sample extracts under proper storage for a minimum of 30 days following completion of the analysis report. Longer storage periods are accommodated on a client specific basis if required. Samples may also be returned to the client for disposal.

Accutest disposes of all laboratory wastes following the requirements of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA). The Company has obtained and maintains a waste generator identification number, NJD982533622.

Sample management generates a sample disposal dump sheet from the LIMS tracking system each week, which lists all samples whose holding period has expired. Data from each sample is compared to the hazardous waste criteria established by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP).

Samples containing constituents at concentrations above the criteria are labeled as hazardous and segregated into four general waste categories for disposal as follows:

- ∴ Waste Oil
- ∴ Soil (solids – positive and negative hazardous characteristics)
- ∴ Mixed Aqueous
- ∴ Sludges (semi-solids)
- ∴ PCB Hazardous Waste (USEPA 40 CFR 761 criteria).

Non-hazardous aqueous samples are diluted and disposed directly into the laboratory sink. All aqueous liquids pass through a neutralization system before entering the municipal system. Solid samples are emptied into consolidation drums and disposed as hazardous waste or non-hazardous wastes depending upon the results of hazardous characteristics determination. Samples classified as PCB hazardous wastes are labeled and packaged according to the requirements in 40 CFR 761.

Empty glass and plastic bottles from aqueous and solid samples are segregated for recycling. Recycled materials are collected by a commercial contractor and transferred to a county transfer facility for separation into various materials categories. These operations are classified as secure facilities employing cameras, security guards and fiber optic security systems.

The recyclable material is transported to a recycling facility for further processing. Separated glass is transported to a processing facility where it is acid washed in two, separate wash baths, rinsed in boiling water and ground into ½ inch chunks. The chunks are transported to an end product user for re-manufacturing into a glass product.

Separated plastic is transported to a processing facility where it is acid washed to remove the labels and adhesives and boiled for sterilization. The sample containers and any remaining labels are shredded and ground resulting in complete destruction of remaining labels the ground material is sent by rail car or tractor-trailer to various end users that melt and reform the material into useful products of their industry. The recycling facility employs a Code of Ethics in which all client names are confidential and are not divulged to any individual or corporation without written permission from the client.

Laboratory wastes are collected by waste stream in designated areas throughout the laboratory. Waste streams are consolidated twice each week by the waste custodian and transferred to stream specific drums for disposal through a permitted waste management contractor. Filled, consolidated drums are tested for hazardous characteristics and scheduled for removal from the facility for appropriate disposal based on the laboratory data.

All solvent extracts and digestates are collected for disposal following the thirty-day holding period and drummed according to their specific waste stream category. Chlorinated solvent extracts are drummed as chlorinated wastes (i.e., Methylene Chloride). Non-chlorinated solvent extracts are drummed as non-chlorinated wastes (i.e., acetone, hexane, methanol, and mixed solvents). Digestates are collected for disposal following the thirty-day holding period and drummed as corrosive liquid containing metals.

10.0 LABORATORY INSTRUMENTATION AND MEASUREMENT STANDARDS

Requirement: The laboratory has established procedures, which assure that instrumentation is performing to a pre-determined operational standard prior to the analysis of any samples. In general, these procedures follow the regulatory agency requirements established in promulgated methodology. The instrumentation selected to perform specified analysis are capable of providing the method specified uncertainty of measurement needed. These procedures are documented and incorporated into the standard operating procedures for the method being executed.

10.1 Mass Tuning – Mass Spectrometers. The mass spectrometer tune and sensitivity is monitored to assure that the instrument is assigning masses and mass abundances correctly and that the instrument has sufficient sensitivity to detect compounds at low concentrations. This is accomplished by analyzing a specific mass tuning compound at a fixed concentration. If the sensitivity is insufficient to detect the tuning compound, corrective action must be performed prior to the analysis of standards or samples. If the mass assignments or mass abundances do not meet criteria, corrective action must be performed prior to the analysis of standards or samples.

10.2 Wavelength Verification – Spectrophotometers. Spectrophotometer detectors are checked on a regular schedule to verify proper response to the wavelength of light needed for the test in use. If the detector response does not meet specifications, corrective action (detector adjustment or replacement) is performed prior to the analysis of standards or samples.

10.3 Inter-element Interference Checks (Metals). Inductively Coupled Plasma Emission Spectrophotometers (ICP) are subject to a variety of spectral interferences, which can be minimized or eliminated by applying interfering element correction factors and background correction points. Interfering element correction factors are checked on a specified frequency through the analysis of check samples containing high levels of interfering elements. Analysis of single element interferant solutions is also conducted at a specified frequency.

If the check indicates that the method criteria have not been achieved for any element in the check standard, the analysis is halted and data from the affected samples are not reported. Sample analysis is resumed after corrective action has been performed and the correction factors have been re-calculated.

New interfering element correction factors are calculated and applied whenever the checks indicate that the correction factors are no longer meeting criteria. At a minimum, correction factors are replaced once a year.

Inductively Coupled Plasma – Mass Spectrometry (ICP-MS) also is subject to isobaric elemental and polyatomic ion interferences. These interferences are corrected through the use of calculations. The accuracy of corrections is dependent on the sample matrix and instrument conditions and is verified by quality control checks on individual runs.

- 10.4 Calibration and Calibration Verification.** Many tests require calibration using a series of reference standards to establish the concentration range for performing quantitative analysis. Instrument calibration is performed using standards that are traceable to national standards. Method specific procedures for calibration are followed prior to any sample analysis.

Calibration is performed using a linear regression calculation or calibration factors calculated from the curve. The calibration must meet method specific criteria for linearity or precision. If the criteria are not achieved, corrective action (re-calibration or instrument maintenance) is performed. The instrument must be successfully calibrated before analysis of samples can be conducted.

Initial calibration for metals analysis performed using inductively coupled plasma (ICP) employs the use of a single standard and a calibration blank to establish linearity. Inductively Coupled Plasma – Mass Spectrometry (ICP-MS) can be calibrated using either a two point or a multi-point calibration, as long as all quality control criteria for the analysis can be achieved. The calibration blank contains all reagents that are placed into the calibration standard with the exception of the target elements. Valid calibration blanks must not contain any target elements.

Initial calibrations must be verified using a single concentration calibration standard from a second source (i.e. separate lot or different provider). The continuing validity of existing calibrations must be regularly verified using a single calibration standard. The response to the standard must meet pre-established criteria that indicate the initial calibration curve remains valid. If the criteria are not achieved corrective action (re-calibration) is performed before any additional samples may be analyzed.

Calibration verification is also performed whenever it appears that the analytical system is out of calibration or no longer meets the calibration requirements. It is also performed when the time period between calibration verifications has expired.

- 10.5 Linear Range Verification and Calibration (ICP & ICP/MS Metals).** Linear range verification is performed for all ICP and ICP/MS instrumentation. The regulatory program or analytical method specifies the verification frequency. A series of calibration standards are analyzed over a broad concentration range. The data from these analyses are used to determine the valid analytical range for the instrument. ICP instrument calibration is routinely performed using a single standard at a concentration within the linear range and a blank.

Some methods or analytical programs require a low concentration calibration check to verify that instrument sensitivity is sufficient to detect target elements at the reporting limit. The analytical method or regulatory program defines the criteria used to evaluate the low concentration calibration check. If the low calibration check fails criteria, corrective action is performed and verified through reanalysis of the low concentration calibration check before continuing with the field sample analysis. ICP-MS instrument calibration is normally performed using multiple standards within the linear range and a blank, but may be done with a single standard at a concentration within the linear range and a blank.

- 10.6 **Retention Time Development and Verification (GC).** Chromatographic retention time windows are developed for all analysis performed using gas chromatographs with conventional detectors. An initial experimental study is performed, which establishes the width of the retention window for each compound. The retention time width of the window defines the time ranges for elution of specified target analytes on the primary and confirmation columns. Retention time windows are established upon initial calibration, applying the retention time range from the initial study to each target compound. Retention times are regularly confirmed through the analysis of an authentic standard during calibration verification. If the target analytes do not elute within the defined range during calibration verification, the instrument must be recalibrated and new windows defined. New studies are performed when major changes, such as column replacement are made to the chromatographic system.
- 10.7 **Equipment List.** See Appendix IV for a listing of all equipment used for measurement and/or calibration in laboratory processes.

11.0 INSTRUMENT MAINTENANCE

Requirement. Documented procedures have been established for conducting equipment maintenance. The procedure includes maintenance schedules if required or documentation of daily maintenance activities. All instrument maintenance activities are documented in instrument specific logbooks.

- 11.1 **Routine, Daily Maintenance.** Routine, daily maintenance is required on an instrument specific basis and is performed each time the instrument is used. Daily maintenance includes activities to insure a continuation of good analytical performance. This may include performance checks that indicate if non-routine maintenance is needed. If performance checks indicate the need for higher level maintenance, the equipment is taken out of service until maintenance is performed. Analysis cannot be continued until all performance checks meet established criteria and a return to operational control has been demonstrated and documented. The individual assigned to the instrument is responsible for daily maintenance.
- 11.2 **Non-routine Maintenance.** Non-routine maintenance is initiated for catastrophic occurrences such as instrument failure. The need for non-routine maintenance is indicated by failures in general operating systems that result in an inability to conduct required performance checks or calibration. Equipment in this category is taken out of service, tagged accordingly and repaired before attempting further analysis. Before initiating repairs, all safety procedures for safe handling of equipment during maintenance, such as lock-out/tag-out are followed. Analysis is not resumed until the instrument meets all operational performance check criteria, is capable of being calibrated and a return to operational control has been demonstrated and documented. Section supervisors are responsible for identifying non-routine maintenance episodes and initiating repair activities to bring the equipment on-line. This may include initiating telephone calls to maintenance contractors if necessary. They are responsible for documenting all details related to the occurrence and repair.
- 11.3 **Scheduled Maintenance.** Modern laboratory instrumentation rarely requires regular preventative maintenance. If required, the equipment is placed on a schedule, which dictates when maintenance is needed. Examples include annual balance calibration by an independent provider or ICP preventative maintenance performed by the instrument manufacturer. Section supervisors are responsible for initiating scheduled maintenance on equipment in this category. Scheduled maintenance is documented using routine documentation practices.
- 11.4 **Maintenance Documentation.** Routine and non-routine maintenance activities are documented in logbooks assigned to instruments and equipment used for analytical measurements. The logbooks contain preprinted forms, which specify the required maintenance activities. The analyst or supervisor performing or initiating the maintenance activity is required to check the activity upon its completion and initial the form. This includes documenting that the instrument has been returned to operational control following the completion of the activity. Non-routine maintenance (repairs, upgrades) is documented on the back page of the service log.

12.0 QUALITY CONTROL PARAMETERS, PROCEDURES, AND CORRECTIVE ACTION

Requirement. All procedures used for test methods incorporate quality control parameters to monitor elements that are critical to method performance. Each quality parameter includes acceptance criteria that have been established by regulatory agencies for the methods in use. Criteria may also be established through client dictates or through the accumulation and statistical evaluation of internal performance data. Data obtained for these parameters during routine analysis must be evaluated by the analyst, and compared to the method criteria in use. If the criteria are not achieved, the procedures must specify corrective action and conformation of control before proceeding with sample analysis. QC parameters, procedures, and corrective action must be documented within the standard operating procedures for each method. In the absence of client specific objectives the laboratory must define qualitative objectives for completeness and representativeness of data.

- 12.1 **Procedure.** Bench analysts are responsible for methodological quality control and sample specific quality control. Each method specifies the control parameters to be employed for the method in use and the specific procedures for incorporating them into the analysis. These control parameters are analyzed and evaluated with every designated sample group (batch).

The data from each parameter provides the analyst with critical decision making information on method performance. The information is used to determine if corrective action is needed to bring the method or the analysis of a specific sample into compliance. These evaluations are conducted throughout the course of the analysis. Each control parameter is indicative of a critical control feature. Failure of a methodological control parameter is indicative of either instrument or batch failure. Failure of a sample control parameter is indicative of control difficulties with a specific sample or samples.

Sample Batch. All samples analyzed in the laboratory are assigned to a designated sample batch, which contains all required quality control samples and a defined maximum number of field samples that are prepared and/or analyzed over a defined time period. The maximum number of field samples in the batch is 20. Accutest has incorporated the NELAP batching policy as the sample-batching standard. This policy incorporates the requirement for blanks and spiked blanks as a time based function as defined by NELAP. Accordingly, the specified time period for a sample batch is 24 hours. Matrix spike/matrix spike duplicate, matrix spikes and duplicates are defined as sample frequency based functions and may be applied to several batches until the frequency requirement has been reached. A matrix spike/matrix spike duplicate, matrix spikes and/or duplicate is required every 20 samples.

Client criteria that defines a batch as a time based function which includes a matrix spike/matrix spike duplicates as a contractual specification will be honored. The typical batch contains a blank and a laboratory control sample (LCS or spiked blank). Batch documentation includes lot specifications for all reagents and standards used during preparation of the batch.

12.2 Methodological Control Parameters and Corrective Action. Prior to the analysis of field samples the analyst must determine that the method is functioning properly. Specific control parameters indicate whether critical processes meet specified requirements before continuing with the analysis. Method specific control parameters must meet criteria before sample analysis can be conducted. Each of these parameters is related to processes that are under the control of the laboratory and can be adjusted if out of control.

Method Blank. A method blank is analyzed during the analysis of any field sample. The method blank is defined as a sample. It contains the same standards (internal standards, surrogates, matrix modifiers, etc.) and reagents that are added to the field sample during analysis, with the exception of the sample itself. If the method blank contains target analyte(s) at concentrations that exceed method detection limit concentrations (organics) or reporting limit concentrations (inorganics), the source of contamination is investigated and eliminated before proceeding with sample analysis. Target analyte(s) in method blanks at concentrations no greater than one-half of the reporting limit concentrations (metals) may be requested on a client or project specific basis. Systematic contamination is documented for corrective action and resolved following the established corrective action procedures.

Laboratory Control Samples (LCS or Spiked Blanks). A laboratory control sample (spiked blank or commercially prepared performance evaluation sample) is analyzed along with field samples to demonstrate that method accuracy is within acceptable limits. These spike solutions may be from different sources than the sources of the solutions used for method calibration depending upon the method requirements. All target components are included in the spike mixture over a two year period. The performance limits are derived from published method specifications or from statistical data generated from the analysis of laboratory method performance samples. Spiked blanks are blank matrices (reagent water or clean sand) spiked with target parameters and analyzed using the same methods used for samples. Accuracy data is compared to laboratory derived limits to determine if the method is in control. Laboratory control samples (LCS) are commercially prepared spiked samples in an inert matrix. Performance criteria for recovery of spiked analytes are pre-established by the commercial entity preparing the sample. The sample is analyzed in the laboratory as an external reference.

Accuracy data is compared to the applicable performance limits. If the spike accuracy exceeds the performance limits, corrective action, as specified in the SOP for the method is performed and verified before continuing with a field sample analysis. In some cases, decisions are made to continue with sample analysis if performance limits are exceeded, provided the unacceptable result has no negative impact on the sample data.

Blanks and spikes are routinely evaluated before samples are analyzed. However, in situations where sample analysis is performed using an autosampler, they may be evaluated after sample analysis has occurred. If the blanks and spikes do not meet criteria, sample analysis is repeated.

Proficiency Testing. Proficiency test samples (PTs) are single or double blind spikes, introduced to the laboratory to assess method performance. PTs may be introduced as double blinds submitted by commercial clients, single or double blinds from regulatory agencies, or internal blinds submitted by the QA group.

A minimum of two single blind studies must be performed each year for every parameter in aqueous and solid matrices for each field of testing for which the laboratory maintains accreditation. Proficiency samples must be purchased as blinds from an A2LA accredited vendor. Data from these studies are provided to the laboratory by the vendor and reported to accrediting agencies. If unsatisfactory performance is noted, corrective action is performed to identify and eliminate any sources of error. A new single blind must be analyzed if required to demonstrate continuing proficiency.

PT samples performed for accrediting agencies or clients, which do not meet performance specifications, require a written summary that documents the corrective action investigation, findings, and corrective action implementation. A copy of this summary shall be submitted to the NELAC Primary Accrediting Authority, NJDEP Office of Quality Assurance for review.

Single or double blind proficiency test samples may be employed for self-evaluation purposes. Data from these analyses are compared to established performance limits. If the data does not meet performance specifications, the system is evaluated for sources of acute or systematic error. If required, corrective action is performed and verified before initiating or continuing sample analysis.

Trend Analysis for Control Parameters. The quality assurance staff is responsible for continuous analytical improvement through quality control data trend analysis. Accuracy data for spiked parameters in the spiked blank are statistically evaluated daily for trends indicative of systematic problems. Data from LCS parameters and surrogates are pooled on a method, matrix, and instrument basis. This data is evaluated by comparison to existing control and warning limits. Trend analysis is performed automatically as follows:

- Any point outside the control limit
- Any three consecutive points between the warning and control limits
- Any eight consecutive points on the same side of the mean.
- Any six consecutive points increasing or decreasing

The results of the trend analysis are transmitted as .PDF files for supervisory evaluation prior to sample analysis. Trends that indicate the potential loss of statistical control are further evaluated to determine the impact on data quality and to determine if corrective action is necessary. If corrective action is indicated, the supervisor informs the analysts of the corrective actions to be performed. Return to control is demonstrated before analysis resumes.

12.3 Sample Control Parameters and Corrective Action. The analysis of samples can be initiated following a successful demonstration that the method is operating within established controls. Additional controls are incorporated into the analysis of each sample to determine if the method is functioning within established specifications for each individual sample. Sample QC data is evaluated and compared to established performance criteria. If the criteria are not achieved the method or the SOP specifies the corrective action required to continue sample analysis. In many cases, failure to meet QC criteria is a function of sample matrix and cannot

be remedied. Each parameter is designed to provide quality feedback on a defined aspect of the sampling and analysis episode.

Duplicates. Duplicate sample analysis is used to measure analytical precision. This can also be equated to laboratory precision for homogenous samples. Precision criteria are method dependent. If precision criteria are not achieved, corrective action or additional action may be required. Recommended action must be completed before sample data can be reported.

Laboratory Spikes & Spiked Duplicates. Spikes and spiked duplicates are used to measure analytical precision and accuracy for the sample matrix selected. Precision and accuracy criteria are method dependent. If precision and accuracy criteria are not achieved, corrective action or additional action may be required. Recommended action must be completed before reporting sample data. All target components are included in the spike mixture over a two year period.

Serial Dilution (Metals). Serial dilutions of metals samples are analyzed to determine if analytical matrix effects may have impacted the reported data. If the value of the serially diluted samples does not agree with the undiluted value within a method-specified range, the sample matrix may be causing interferences, which may lead to either a high or low bias. If the serial dilution criterion is not achieved, it must be flagged to indicate possible bias from matrix effects.

Post Digestion Spikes. Digested samples are spiked and analyzed to determine if matrix interferences are biasing the results when the pre-digestion spike (matrix spike) recovery falls outside the control limits. It may also be used to determine potential interferences per client's specification. The sample is spiked at the concentration specified in the method SOP. No action is necessary if the post digestion spike is outside of the method criteria, unless a preparation problem is suspected with the spike, in which case the post digestion spike should be re-prepared and reanalyzed.

Surrogate Spikes (Organics). Surrogate spikes are organic compounds that are similar in behavior to the target analytes but unlikely to be found in nature. They are added to all quality control and field samples to measure method performance for each individual sample. Surrogate accuracy limits are derived from published method specifications or from the statistical evaluation of laboratory generated surrogate accuracy data. Accuracy data is compared to the applicable performance limits. If the surrogate accuracy exceeds performance limits, corrective action, as specified in the method or SOP is performed before sample data can be reported.

Internal Standards (Organic Methods). Internal standards are retention time and instrument response markers added to every sample to be used as references for quantitation. Their response is compared to reference standards and used to evaluate instrument sensitivity on a sample specific basis. Internal standard retention time is also compared to reference standards to assure that target analytes are capable of being located by their individual relative retention time.

If internal standard response criteria are not achieved, corrective action or additional action may be required. The recommended action must be completed before sample data can be reported.

If the internal standard retention time criteria are not achieved corrective action or additional action may be required. This may include re-calibration and re-analysis. Additional action must be completed before sample data is reported.

Internal Standards (ICP and ICP/MS Metals). Internal standards are used on ICP instruments to compensate for variations in response caused by differences in sample matrices. Multiple internal standards are used for each sample on ICP/MS instruments to compensate for variations in response caused by differences in sample matrices. This adjustment is performed automatically during sample analysis. The internal standard response of replicated sample analysis is monitored to detect potential analytical problems. If analytical problems are suspected, then the field samples may be reanalyzed or reanalyzed upon dilution to minimize the interferences. A different internal standard may be employed for quantitation in situations where the field sample contains the element typically used as the internal standard.

- 12.4 **Laboratory Derived Quality Control Criteria.** Control criteria for in-house methods and client specific modifications that exceed the scope of published methodology are defined and documented prior to the use of the method. The Quality Assurance Director is responsible for identifying additional control criteria needs. Control parameters and criteria, based on best technical judgment are established using input provided by the operations staff. These control parameters and criteria are documented and incorporated into the method.

The laboratory-derived criteria are evaluated for technical soundness on spiked samples prior to the use of the method on field samples. The technical evaluation is documented and archived by the Quality Assurance Staff.

When sufficient data from the laboratory developed control parameter is accumulated, the data is statistically processed and the experimentally derived control limits are incorporated into the method.

- 12.5 **Bench Review & Corrective Action.** The bench chemists are responsible for all QC parameters. Before proceeding with sample analysis, they are required to successfully meet all instrumental QC criteria. They have the authority to perform any necessary corrective action before proceeding with sample analysis. Their authority includes the responsibility for assuring that departures from documented policies and procedures do not occur.

The bench chemists are also responsible for all sample QC parameters. If the sample QC criteria are not achieved, they are authorized and required to perform the method specified corrective action before reporting sample data.

- 12.6 **Data Qualifiers.** An alpha character coding system is employed for defining use limitations for reported data. These limitations are applied to analytical data by the analyst to clarify the

usefulness of the reported data for data user. Common data qualifiers and their definitions are as follows:

Organics.

- J: Indicates an estimated value. Applied to calculated concentrations for tentatively identified compounds and qualitatively identified compounds whose concentration is below the reporting limit, but above the MDL.
- N: Indicates qualitative evidence of a tentatively identified compound whose identification is based on a mass spectral library search and is applied to all TIC results.
- C: Applied to pesticide data that has been qualitatively confirmed by GC/MS.
- B: Used for analytes detected in the sample and its associated method blank.
- E: Applied to compounds whose concentration exceeds the upper limit of the calibration range.

Metals and Inorganics.

- B: Applied if the reported concentration value was less than the reporting limit but greater than the MDL.
- U: Applied if the reading is less than the MDL (or IDL if IDL reporting is being used).
- E: Estimated concentration caused by the presence of interferences, normally applied when the serial dilution is out.
- N: Spike sample recovery not within control limits.
- *: Duplicate or matrix spike duplicate analysis not within control limits.

12.7 QA Monitoring. The QA staff conducts a spot review of completed data packages prior to client release for specified projects. This review includes an examination of QC data for compliance and trends indicative of systematic difficulties. If non-conformances are detected, the QA staff places an immediate stop on the release of the data and initiates corrective action to rectify the situation. The data package is released when the package becomes compliant with all quality requirements. If compliance is not possible, the data is qualified and an appropriate case narrative is generated for inclusion in the data package.

If the review reveals trends indicative of systematic problems, QA initiates an investigation to determine the cause. If process defects are detected, a corrective action is implemented and monitored for effectiveness.

Performance Limits. The Quality Assurance Director is responsible for compilation and maintenance of all precision and accuracy data used for performance limits. Quality control data for all test methods are accumulated and stored in the laboratory information

management system (LIMS). Parameter specific QC data is extracted annually and statically processed to develop laboratory specific warning limits and control limits. The new limits are reviewed and approved by the supervisory staff prior to their use for data assessment. The new limits are used to evaluate QC data for compliance with method requirements for a period of one year. Laboratory generated limits appear on all data reports.

- 12.8 Data Package Review.** Accutest employs multiple levels of data review to assure that reported data has satisfied all quality control criteria and that client specifications and requirements have been met. Each production department has developed specific data review procedures, which must be completed before data is released to the client.

Analytical Review. The analyst conducts the primary review of all data. This review begins with a check of all instrument and method quality control and progresses through sample quality control, concluding with a check to assure that the client's requirements have been executed. Analyst checks focus on a review of qualitative determinations and checks of precision and accuracy data to verify that existing laboratory criteria have been achieved. Checks at this level may include comparisons with project specific criteria if applicable. The analyst has the authority and responsibility to perform corrective action for any out-of-control parameter or nonconformance at this stage of review.

Analysts who have met the qualification criteria for the method in use perform secondary, peer level data reviews. Analyst qualification requirements include a valid demonstration of capability and demonstrated understanding of the method SOP. Section supervisors may perform secondary review in-lieu of a peer review. Supervisors review 100% of the data produced by their department. It includes a check of all manual calculations; an accuracy check of manually transcribed data from bench sheets to the LIMS, a check of calibration and continuing calibration, all QC criteria and a comparison of the data package to client specified requirements. Also included are checks to assure the appropriate methodology was applied and that all anomalous information was properly flagged for communication in the case narrative. Supervisors have the authority to reject data and initiate re-analysis, corrective action, or reprocessing.

All laboratory data requiring manual entry into LIMS system is double-checked by the analysts performing initial data entry and the section supervisor. Verification of supervisory review is indicated on the raw data summary by the supervisor's initials and date.

Electronic data that is manually edited at the bench by the primary analyst is automatically flagged by the instrument data system indicating an override by the analyst. All manual overrides must be verified and approved by a supervisor who initials and dates all manual changes.

Hard copies of manually integrated chromatographic peaks are printed that clearly depict the manually drawn baseline. The hard copy is reviewed and approved by the section supervisor (initialed and dated) and included in the data package of all full tier reports or the archived batch records of commercial report packages.

A manager or supervisor only has permission to edit electronic data that has been committed to the LIMS. These edits may be required if needs for corrections are indicated during the final review. A GALP audit record for all electronic changes in the LIMS is automatically appended to the record.

The group manager performs a tertiary review on a spot check basis. This review includes an evaluation of QC data against acceptance criteria and a check of the data package contents to assure that all analytical requirements and specifications were executed.

Report Generation Review. The report generation group reviews all data and supporting information delivered by the laboratory for completeness and compliance with client specifications. Missing deliverables are identified and obtained from the laboratory. The group also reviews the completed package to verify that the delivered product complies with all client specifications. Non-analytical defects are corrected before the package is sent to the client.

Project Management/Quality Control Review. Spot-check data package reviews are performed by the project management staff. Project management reviews focus on project specifications. If the project manager identifies defects in the product prior to release, he initiates immediate corrective action to rectify the situation.

The QA staff performs a post-delivery check of completed data packages to verify completeness and compliance with established quality control procedures. Approximately 10% of Full-Deliverables data packages are reviewed. A formal checklist is used to assess data report completeness and accuracy. Detected deficiencies are documented on the checklist and corrective actions initiated as necessary. Data review checklists are electronic documents, which are archived in the QA Directory of the network server.

The QA review focuses on all elements of the deliverable including the client's specifications and requirements, analytical quality control, sample custody documentation and sample identification. QA reviews at this step in the production process are geared towards systematic process defects, which require procedural changes to effect a corrective action. However, if defects are identified that have an adverse affect on data, the client is immediately informed following standard notification procedures. QA data review is not used in lieu of a peer level review or a supervisory review.

Data Reporting. Analytical data is released to clients following a secondary review by the group supervisor. Data release at this stage of the process is limited to electronic information, which is released to clients through a secure, encrypted, password protected, Internet connection. Hard copy support data is compiled by the report generation group and assembled into the final report. The report is sent to the client following reviews by the report generation staff.

All data reports include specified information, which is required to identify the report and its contents. This information includes a title, name and address of the laboratory, a unique report number, total number of pages in the report, clients name and address, analytical

method identification, arriving sample condition, sample and analysis dates, test results with units of measurement, authorized signature of data release, statement of applicability, report reproduction restrictions and NELAC requirements certification.

- 12.9 **Electronic Data Reduction.** Raw data from sample analysis is entered into the laboratory information management system (LIMS) using automated processes or manual entry. Final data processing is performed by the LIMS using procedures developed by the Company.

All LIMS programs are tested and validated prior to use to assure that they consistently produce correct results. The Information Technology Staff performs software validation testing. The testing procedures are documented in an SOP. Software programs are not approved for use until they have demonstrated that they are capable of performing the required calculations.

- 12.10 **Representativeness.** Data representativeness is based on the premise that qualitative and quantitative information developed for field samples is characteristic of the sample that was collected by the client and analyzed in the laboratory. The laboratory objective for representativeness defines data as representative if the criteria for all quality parameters associated with the analysis of the sample are achieved.

- 12.11 **Comparability.** Analytical data is defined as comparable when data from a sample set analyzed by the laboratory is representatively equivalent to other sample sets analyzed separately regardless of the analytical logistics. The laboratory will achieve 100% comparability for all sample data which meets the criteria for the quality parameters associated with its analysis using the method requested by the client.

13.0 CORRECTIVE ACTION SYSTEM

Requirement. The laboratory employs policies and procedures for correcting defective processes, systematic errors, and quality defects enabling the staff to systematically improve product quality. The system includes procedures for communicating items requiring corrective action to responsible individuals, corrective action tracking procedures, corrective action documentation, monitoring of effectiveness, and reports to management. The system is fully documented in a standard operating procedure. Individual corrective actions and responses are documented in a dedicated database.

- 13.1 **Procedure.** Corrective action is the step that follows the identification of a process defect. The type of defect determines the level of documentation, communication, and training necessary to prevent re-occurrence of the defect or non-conformance. The formal system is maintained by the quality assurance department. Operations management is responsible for working within the system to resolve identified deficiencies.

Routine Corrective Action. Routine corrective action is defined as the procedures used to return out of control analytical systems back to control. This level of corrective action applies to all analytical quality control parameters or analytical system specifications.

Bench analysts have full responsibility and authority for performing routine corrective action. The resolution of defects at this level does not require a procedural change or staff re-training. The analyst is free to continue work once corrective action is complete and the analytical system has been returned to control. Documentation of routine corrective actions is limited to logbook comments for the analysis being performed.

Process Changes. Corrective actions in this category require procedural modifications. They may be the result of systematic defects identified during audits, the investigation of client inquiries, failed proficiency tests, product defects identified during data review, or method updates. Resolution of defects of this magnitude requires formal identification of the defect, development and documentation of a corrective action plan, and staff training to communicate the procedural change.

Technical Corrective Action. Technical corrective action encompasses routine corrective action performed by bench analysts for out of control systems and corrective actions performed for data produced using out of control systems. Technical corrective action for routine situations is conducted using the procedures detailed above.

Non-routine corrective actions apply to situations where the bench analysts failed to perform routine corrective action before continuing analysis. Supervisors and Department Managers perform corrective action in these situations. Documentation of all non-routine corrective actions is performed using the corrective action system.

Sample re-analysis is conducted if sufficient sample and holding time remain to repeat the analysis using an in-control system. If insufficient sample or holding time remains, the data is processed and qualifiers applied that describe the out of control situation. The occurrence is

further documented in the case narrative and in the corrective action response. The corrective action must include provisions for retraining the analysts who failed to perform routine corrective action.

- 13.2 Documentation & Communication.** Routine corrective actions are documented as part of the analytical record. Notations are made in the comments section of the analytical chronicle or data sheet detailing the nonconformance and corrective action. Continuation of the analysis indicates that return to control was successful.

Corrective actions for process changes are documented, tracked and monitored for effectiveness. Supervisors or senior staff members may initiate corrective actions by generating a corrective action using the corrective action database application.

The corrective action database is an Access application. The initiator generates the corrective action investigation form, which is documented, tracked, distributed to responsible parties and archived through the application. The application assigns a tracking number, initiation data and due date to each action and copies the corrective action form to the database. E-mail message containing the form is automatically distributed to the responsible parties for resolution.

The responsible party identifies the root cause of the defect, initiates the immediate fix and develops and implements the procedural change. Existing documentation such as SOPs are edited to reflect the change. The affected staff is informed of the procedural change through a formal training session. The training is documented and copies are placed into individual training files. The corrective action form is completed by the responsible party and returned to the QA staff via e-mail using the database application.

Initial and completed corrective action forms are maintained in the corrective action database. This entire database is backed up and archived daily. The corrective action tracking form is maintained as an active report in the database.

Monitoring. The QA Staff monitors the implemented corrective action until it is evident that the action has been effective and the defect has been eliminated. The corrective action database is updated by QA to reflect closure of the corrective action. The QA staff assigns an error code to the corrective action for classification of the type of errors being committed. Additional monitoring of the corrective action is conducted during routine laboratory audits.

If QA determines that the corrective action response has not effectively remedied the deficiency, the process continues with a re-initiation of the corrective action. Corrective action continues until the defect is eliminated. If another procedural change is required, it is treated as a new corrective action, which is documented and monitored using established procedures.

Client Notification. Defective processes, systematic errors, and quality defects, detected during routine audits may have negative impacts on data quality. In some cases, data that has been released to clients may be affected. If defective data has been released for use, Accutest will notify the affected clients of the defect and provide specific details regarding the magnitude of the impact to their data.

14.0 PROCEDURES FOR EXECUTING CLIENT SPECIFICATIONS

Requirement. Systems have been established for evaluating and processing client specifications for routine and non-routine analytical services. The systems enable the client services staff to identify, evaluate, and document the requested specifications to determine if adequate resources are available to perform the analysis. The system includes procedures for communicating the specifications to the laboratory staff for execution and procedures for verifying the specifications have been executed.

- 14.1 **Client Specific Requirements.** The project manager is the primary contact for clients requesting laboratory services. Client specifications are communicated using several mechanisms. The primary sources of information are the client's quality assurance project plan (QAPjP) and the analytical services contract both of which detail the analytical, quality control and data reporting specifications for the project. In the absence of a QAPjP, projects specifications can also be communicated using contracts, letters of authorization, or letters of agreement, which may be limited to a brief discussion of the analytical requirements and the terms and conditions for the work. These documents may also include pricing information, liabilities and scope of work, in addition to the analytical requirements. QAPjPs include detailed analytical requirements and data quality objectives, which supersede those found in the referenced methods. This information is essential to successful project completion.

The client services staff provides additional assistance to clients who are unsure of the specifications they need to execute the sampling and analysis requirements of their project. They provide additional support to clients who require assistance in results interpretation as needed, provided they possess the expertise required to render an opinion.

The project manager is responsible for obtaining project documents, which specify the analytical requirements. Following project management review, copies are distributed to the QA Director and the appropriate departmental managers for review and comment. The original QAPjP is filed in a secure location.

- 14.2 **Requirements for Non-Standard Analytical Specifications.** Client requirements that specify departures from documented policies, procedures, or standard specifications must be submitted to Accutest in writing. These requirements are reviewed and approved by the technical staff before the project is accepted. Once accepted, the non-standard requirements become analytical specifications, which follow the routine procedure for communicating client specifications. Departures from documented policies, procedures, or standard specifications that do not follow this procedure are not permitted.

- 14.3 **Evaluation of Resources.** A resource evaluation is completed prior to accepting projects submitted by clients. The evaluation is initiated by the client services staff who prepares a brief synopsis that includes the logistical requirements of the project. Logistical specifications for new projects are summarized in writing for evaluation by the affected departments. The specifications are evaluated by the department manager from a scheduling and hardware resources perspective. The project is not accepted unless the department managers have the necessary resources to execute the project according to client specifications.

- 14.4 **Documentation.** New projects are initiated using a project set up form, which is completed prior to the start of the project. This form details all of the information needed to correctly enter the specifications for each client sample into the laboratory information management system (LIMS). The form includes data reporting requirements, billing information, data turnaround times, QA level, state of origin, and comments for detailing project specific requirements. The project manager is responsible for obtaining this information from the client and completing the form prior to sample arrival and login.

Sample receipt triggers project creation and the login process. The information on the set-up form is entered into the LIMS immediately prior to logging in the first sample. The set up form may be accompanied by a quotation, which details the analytical product codes and sample matrices. These details are also entered into the LIMS during login.

Special information is distributed to the laboratory supervisors and login department in electronic or hardcopy format upon project setup. All, project specific information is retained by the project manager in a secure file. The project manager maintains a personal telephone log, which details conversations with the client regarding the project.

Department managers prepare summary sheets that detail client specific analytical requirements for each test. Bench analysts use these sheets to obtain information regarding client specific analytical requirements before analyzing samples. A program code is established for each client that links the client specifications to a client project. This code is attached to a project by the project manager at login and listed on the work list for each work group conducting analysis for clients with standing requirements.

- 14.5 **Communication.** A pre-project meeting is held between client services and the operations managers to discuss the specifications described in the QAPjP, contract and/or related documents. Project logistics are discussed and finalized and procedures are developed to assure proper execution of the client's analytical specifications and requirements. Questions, raised in the review meeting, are discussed with the client for resolution. Exceptions to any requirements, if accepted by the client, are documented and incorporated into the QAPjP or project documentation records.

Non-standard specifications for individual clients are documented in the LIMS at the client account level or program level. Simple specifications are documented as comments for each project. Once entered into the LIMS, these specifications become memorialized for all projects related to the client account. Complex specifications are assigned program codes that link the specification to detailed analytical specifications.

Upon sample arrival, these specifications are accessed through a terminal or printed as a hard copy and stored in a binder for individuals who require access to the specification. Specifications that are not entered into the LIMS are prohibited unless documented in an interdepartmental memo, which clearly identifies the project, client and effective duration of the specification.

- 14.6 **Operational Execution.** A work schedule is prepared for each analytical department on a daily basis. Analytical specifications or program codes from recently arrived samples have now been entered into the LIMS database. The database is sorted by analytical due date and holding time, into product specific groups. Samples are scheduled for analysis by due date and holding time. The completed schedule, which is now defined as a work list, is printed. The list contains the client requested product codes, program codes and specifications required for the selected sample(s). Special requirements are communicated to the analyst using the comments section or relayed through verbal instructions provided by the supervisor. The bench analyst assumes full responsibility for performing the analysis according to the specifications printed on the work sheet.
- 14.7 **Verification.** Prior to the release of data to the client, laboratory section managers and the report generation staff review the report and compare the completed product to the client specifications documentation to assure that all requirements have been met. Project managers perform a spot check of projects with unique requirements to assure that the work was executed according to specifications.

15.0 CLIENT COMPLAINT RESOLUTION PROCEDURE

Requirement. The laboratory follows a formal system for managing and reconciling client complaints. The system includes procedures for documenting the complaint and communicating it to the appropriate department for resolution. The system also includes a quality assurance evaluation to determine if the complaint is related to systematic defects requiring corrective action and process changes.

- 15.1 **Procedure.** Client complaints are communicated to client services representatives, quality assurance staff, or senior management staff for resolution. The individual receiving the complaint retains the responsibility for documentation and communicating the nature of the complaint to the responsible department(s) for resolution. The responsible party addresses the complaint. The resolution is communicated to quality assurance (QA) and the originator for communication to the client. QA reviews the complaint and resolution to determine if systematic defects exist. If systematic defects are present, QA initiates a corrective action for the responsible party who develops and implements a response that eliminates the defect.
- 15.2 **Documentation.** Client's complaints are documented by the individual receiving the complaint using the Data Query and Corrective Action Inquiry Process. This process generates an E-Mail message that contains detailed information essential to the complaint resolution. A record of the telephone conversation is maintained by client services. The message is distributed to the QA staff and the party bearing responsibility for resolution by E-Mail. The complaint resolution is documented on the message by the responsible party and returned to the originator. A copy is sent to QA for review and database archiving.
- 15.3 **Corrective Action.** Responses to data queries are required from the responsible party. At a minimum, the response addresses the query and provides an explanation to the complaint. Formal corrective action may focus on the single issue expressed in the complaint. Corrective action may include reprocessing of data, editing of the initial report, and re-issue to the client. If the QA review indicates a systematic error, process modification is required. The defective process at the root of the complaint is changed. SOPs are either created or modified to reflect the change. The party responsible for the process implements process changes.
- 15.4 **QA Monitoring.** Process changes, implemented to resolve systematic defects, are monitored for effectiveness by QA. If monitoring indicates that the process change has not resolved the defect, QA works with the department management to develop and implement an effective process. If monitoring indicates that the defect has been resolved, monitoring is slowly discontinued and the corrective action is closed. Continued monitoring is incorporated as an element of the annual system audit.

16.0 CONTROL OF NONCONFORMING PRODUCT

Requirement: Policies and procedures have been developed and implemented that describe the procedures employed by the laboratory when any aspect of sample analysis or data reporting do not conform to established procedures or client specifications. These procedures include steps to ensure that process defects are corrected and affected work is evaluated to assess its impact to the client.

Procedure. Nonconforming product is identified through routine internal review and audit practices or through client inquiry. The individuals who identify the nonconformance or receiving a nonconformance inquiry immediately inform the Laboratory Director and the Quality Assurance Director. The Laboratory Director initiates an evaluation of the nonconformance through the Quality Assurance Department and takes full responsibility for managing the process and identifying the course of action to take, initiating corrective action and mitigating the impact of the nonconformance to the client.

- 16.1 **Corrective Action.** The outcome of the evaluation dictates the course of action. This includes client notification when the quality of data reported has been impacted and may also include corrective action if applicable. Immediate corrective action is performed using the procedures specified in Accutest SOP EQA011. However, additional action may be required including cessation of analysis and withholding and or recalling data reports. If the evaluation indicates that nonconforming data may have been issued to clients, the client is immediately notified and data may be recalled following the procedures specified in SOP EQA011. If work has been stopped because of a nonconformance, the Laboratory Director is the only individual authorized to direct a resumption of analysis.

Nonconformances caused by systematic process defects require retraining of the personnel involved as an element of the corrective action solution.

17.0 CONFIDENTIALITY PROTECTION PROCEDURES

Requirement: Policies and procedures have been developed to protect client data from release to unauthorized parties or accidental release of database information through accidental electronic transmission or illegal intrusion. These policies have been communicated to clients and staff. Electronic systems are regularly evaluated for effectiveness.

- 17.1 **Client Anonymity.** Information related to the Company's clients is granted to employees on a "need to know" basis. An individual's position within the organization defines his "need to know". Individuals with "need to know" status are given password access to systems that contain client identity information and access to documents and document storage areas containing client reports and information. Access to client information by individuals outside of the Company is limited to the client and individuals authorized by the client.

Individuals outside of the Company may obtain client information through subpoena issued by a court of valid jurisdiction. Clients are informed when subpoenas are received ordering the release of their information.

Client information may be released directly to regulatory agencies without receiving client authorization under specified circumstances. These circumstances require that the regulatory agency have statutory authority under the regulations for laboratory certification and that Accutest's operations fall under the purview of the regulation. In these situations, Accutest will inform the client of the regulatory agencies request for information pertaining to his data and proceed with the delivery of the information to the regulatory agency.

- 17.2 **Documents.** Access to client documents is restricted to employees in need to know positions. Copies of all client reports are stored in secure electronic archives with restricted access. Reports and report copies are distributed to individuals who have been authorized by the client to receive them. Data reports or data are not released to third parties without verbally expressed or written permission from the client.

- 17.3 **Electronic Data.**

Database Intrusion. Direct database entry is authorized for employees of Accutest only on a need to know basis. Entry to the database is restricted through a user specific multiple password entry system. Direct access to the database outside of the facility is possible through a dial-up connection. A unique password is required for access to the local area network. A second unique password is required to gain access to the database. The staff receives read or write level authorization on a hierarchical privilege basis.

Internet Access. Access to client information is through an HTTP Web application only. It does not contain a mechanism that allows direct access to the database. Clients can gain access to their data only using a series of Accutest assigned client and user specific passwords. The viewable data, which is encrypted during transmission, consists of an extraction of database information only.

Client Accessibility. Accessibility to client data delivered via electronic means follows strict protocols to insure confidentiality. Clients accessing electronic data are assigned a company account. The account profile, which is established by the MIS staff, grants explicit access to specific information pertaining to the client's project activity. Passwords are assigned on an individual basis within a client account. These accounts can be activated or deactivated by the MIS staff only.

17.4 Information Requests. Client specific data or information is not released to third parties without verbally expressed or written permission from the client. Written permission is required from third parties, who contact the Company directly for the release of information. Verbal requests will be honored only if they are received directly from the client. These requests must be documented in a record of communication maintained by the authorized recipient.

17.5 Transfer of Records. Archived data, which has previously been reported and transmitted to clients, is the exclusive property of Accutest Laboratories. In the event of a cessation of business activities due to business failure or sale, The Company's legal staff will be directed to arrange for the final disposition of archived data.

The final disposition of archived data will be accomplished using the approach detailed in the following sequence:

1. All data will be transferred to the new owners for the duration of the required archive period as a condition of sale.
2. If the new owners will not accept the data or the business has failed, letters will be sent to clients listed on the most recent active account roster offering them the option to obtain specific reports (identified by Accutest Job Number) at their own expense.
3. A letter will be sent to the NELAC accrediting authority with organizational jurisdiction over the company offering them the option to obtain all unclaimed reports at their own expense.
4. All remaining archived data will be recycled using the most expedient means possible.

18.0 QUALITY AUDITS AND SYSTEM REVIEWS

Requirement: The quality assurance group conducts regularly scheduled audits of the laboratory to assess compliance with quality system requirements, technical requirements of applied methodology, and adherence to documentation procedures. The information gathered during these audits is used to provide feedback to senior management and perform corrective action where needed for quality improvement purposes.

- 18.1 **Quality System Reviews.** Quality system reviews are performed annually by the Quality Assurance Director for the Company President. In this review, the laboratory is evaluated for compliance with the laboratory Quality Systems Manual (QSM) and the quality system standards of the National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Conference. Findings, which indicate non-compliance or deviation from the QSM, are flagged for corrective action. Corrective actions require either a return to compliance or a plan change to reflect an improved quality process. The Quality Assurance Director is responsible for making and documenting changes to the QSM. These changes are reviewed by the Company President and The Laboratory Director prior to the approval of the revised system.
- 18.2 **Quality System Audits.** Quality system audits are conducted to evaluate the effectiveness and laboratory compliance with individual quality system elements. These audits are conducted on an established schedule. Audit findings are documented and communicated to the management staff and entered into the corrective action system for resolution. If necessary, retraining is conducted to assure complete understanding of the system requirements.
- 18.3 **Test Method Assessments.** Test Method Assessments are performed throughout the year following an established schedule. Selected analytical procedures are evaluated for compliance with standard operating procedures (SOPs) and method requirements. If non-conformances exist, the published method serves as the standard for compliance. SOPs are edited for compliance if the document does not reflect method requirements. Analysts are trained to the new requirements and the process is monitored by quality assurance. Analysts are retrained in method procedures if an evaluation of bench practices indicates non-compliance with SOP requirements.
- 18.4 **Documentation Audits.** Documentation audits are conducted monthly. This audit includes a check of measurement processes that require manual documentation. It also includes checks of data archiving systems and a search to find and remove any inactive versions of SOPs that may still be present in the laboratory and being accessed by the analysts. Non-conformances are corrected on the spot. Procedural modifications are implemented if the evaluation indicates a systematic defect.
- 18.5 **Corrective Action Monitoring.** Defects or non-conformances that are identified during client or internal audits are documented in the corrective action systems and corrected through process modifications and/or retraining. Once a corrective action has been designed and implemented, it is monitored for compliance on a regular basis by the QA staff. Spot

corrections are performed if the staff is not following the new procedure. Monitoring of the corrective action continues until satisfactory implementation has been verified.

- 18.6 **Preventive Action.** Laboratory systems or processes, which may be faulty and pose the potential for nonconformances, errors, confusing reports or difficulties establishing traceability may be identified during internal audits. These items are highlighted for systematic change using the corrective action system and managed to resolution using the procedures for corrective action identified in EQA011.
- 18.7 **Client Notification.** Defective processes, systematic errors, and quality defects, detected during routine audits may have negative impacts on data quality. In some cases, data that has been released to clients may be affected. If defective data has been released for use, Accutest will immediately notify the affected clients of the defect and provide specific details regarding the magnitude of the impact to their data.
- 18.8 **Management Reports.** Formal reports of all audit and proficiency testing activity are prepared for the management staff and presented as they occur. Additional reports may be presented orally at regularly scheduled staff meetings

Management reports may also address the following topics:

- Status and results of internal and external audits,
- Status and results of internal and external proficiency testing,
- Identification of quality control problems in the laboratory,
- Discussion of corrective action program issues,
- Status of external certifications and approvals,
- Status of staff training and qualifications,
- Discussion of new quality system initiatives.
- Recommendations for further action on listed items are included in the report.

19.0 HEALTH AND SAFETY

Requirement. The company operates a formal health and safety program that complies with the requirements of the Occupational Health and Safety Administration. The program consists of key policies and practices that are essential to safe laboratory operation. All employees are required to receive training on the program elements. Job specific training is conducted to assure safe practices for specific tasks. All employees are required to participate in the program, receive initial and annual training, and comply with the program requirements. All plan and program requirements are detailed in the Health and Safety Program Manual.

- 19.1 Policy.** Accutest Laboratories will provide a safe and healthy working environment for its employees and clients while protecting the public and preserving the Company's assets and property. The company will comply with all applicable government regulations pertaining to safety and health in the laboratory and the workplace.

The objective of the Accutest Health and Safety Program is to promote safe work practices that minimize the occurrence of injuries and illness to the staff through proper health and safety training, correct laboratory technique application and the use of engineering controls.

- 19.2 Responsibilities.** The Health and Safety Program assists managers, supervisors and non-supervisory employees in control of hazards and risks to minimize the potential for employee and client injuries, damage to client's property and damage or destruction to Accutest's facility.

The Health, Safety and Facilities Manager is responsible for implementing the Program's elements and updating its contents as necessary. He also conducts periodic audits to monitor compliance and assess the program's effectiveness. The Health, Safety and Facilities Manager is also responsible for creating and administering safety training for all new and existing employees.

The employee is responsible for following all safety rules established for their protection, the protection of others and the proper use of protective devices provided by the Company. The employee is also expected to comply with the requirements of the program at all times. Department Managers and Supervisors are responsible for ensuring the requirements of the Safety Program are practiced daily. The Company President retains the ultimate responsibility for the program design and implementation.

- 19.3 Program Elements.** The Accutest Health and Safety Program consists of key program elements that compliment the company's health and safety objective. These elements form the essence of the health and safety policy and assure that the objectives of the program are achieved.

Safety Education and Training and Communication. Training is conducted to increase the staff's awareness of laboratory hazards and their knowledge of the safety practices and procedures required to protect them from those hazards. It is also used to communicate general safety procedures required for safe operation in a chemical laboratory.

Initial health and safety training for new employees is conducted during orientation. The training focuses on the Accutest Safety and Health Program and includes specific training for the hazards that may be associated with the employees duties. Training is also conducted for all program elements focusing on general, acceptable, laboratory safety procedures. Targeted training is conducted to address hazards or safety procedures that are specific to individual employee's work assignments. All training activities are documented and archived in individual training folders, A health and safety training inventory is maintained in the training database.

Safety Committee. The safety committee provides the employee with an opportunity to express their views and concerns on safety issues in a forum where those concerns will be addressed. This committee meets monthly to assure that the interests of the company and the well being of the employee are protected. They also serve as a catalyst for elevating the level of safety awareness among their peers.

Hazard Identification and Communication. The hazard communication program enables employees to readily identify laboratory hazards and the procedures to protect themselves from those hazards. This program complies with OSHA's Hazard Communication Standard, Title 29 Code of Federal Regulations 1910.1200 that requires the company to adopt and adhere to the following key elements:

- ◆ Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) must be available to any employee wishing to view them,
- ◆ The Company must maintain a Hazardous Chemicals Inventory (by location), which is updated on an annual basis,
- ◆ Containers are properly labeled,
- ◆ All employees must be provided with annual Hazard Communication and Right to Know training,

The hazard communication program also complies with the requirements of the New Jersey Worker and Community Right to Know Law, NJAC 8:95.

Identification of Workplace Hazards. The workplace hazard identification procedures have been designed to assure that hazards that have the potential to cause personnel injury or destruction of property are identified, managed and/or systematically eliminated from the operation. This system eliminates hazards, limits the potential for injury and increases the overall safety of the work environment.

Employee Exposure Assessment. Employee exposure assessment is performed to identify and evaluate potential exposure hazards associated with the employees work station. The exposure assessment data is used to determine if changes or modifications to the work station are needed to limit exposure to laboratory conditions that could negatively affect an employee's existing medical conditions.

Bloodborne Pathogens. Accutest has implemented the OSHA Bloodborne Pathogen Standard, 29CFR1910.1030 to reduce occupational exposure to Hepatitis B Virus (HBV), Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) and other bloodborne pathogens that employees may encounter in their workplace.

Respiratory Protection Plan. The respiratory protection plan assures that Accutest employees are protected from exposure to respiratory hazards. This program is used in situations where engineering controls and/or safe work practices do not completely control the identified hazards. In these situations, respirators and other protective equipment are used. Supplemental respiratory protection procedures are applied to specified maintenance personnel, employees who handle hazardous wastes in the hazardous waste storage area, and any employee that voluntarily elects to wear a respirator.

Chemical Hygiene Plan. The Chemical Hygiene Plan complies with the requirements of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's Occupational Exposure to Hazardous Chemicals in the Laboratory Standard, 29 CFR 1910.1450. This plan establishes procedures, identifies safety equipment, personal protective equipment, and work practices that protect employees from the potential health hazards presented by hazardous chemicals in the laboratory if properly used and/or applied.

Chemical Spill Response Plan. The chemical spill response plan has been designed to minimize the risks from a chemical spill or accidental chemical release in the laboratory. Risk minimization is accomplished through a planned response that follows a defined procedure. The staff has been trained to execute spill response procedures according to the specifications of the plan, which identifies the appropriate action to be taken based on the size of the spill.

Emergency Action & Evacuation Plan. The Emergency Action and Evacuation Plan details the procedures used to protect and safeguard Accutest's employees and property during emergencies. Emergencies are defined as fires or explosions, gas leaks, building collapse, hazardous material spills, emergencies that immediately threaten life and health, bomb threats and natural disasters such as floods, hurricanes or tornadoes, terrorism or terrorist actions. The plan identifies and assigns responsibility for executing specific roles in situations requiring emergency action. It also describes the building security actions coinciding with the "Alert Condition", designated by the Department of Homeland Security.

Lockout/Tagout Plan. Lockout/tagout procedures have been established to assure that laboratory employees and outside contractors take steps to render equipment inoperable and/or safe before conducting maintenance activities. The plan details the procedures for conducting maintenance on equipment that has the potential to unexpectedly energize, start up, or release energy or can be operated unexpectedly or accidentally resulting in serious injury to employees. The plan ensures that employees performing maintenance render the equipment safe through lock out or tag out procedures.

Personal Protection Policy. Policies have been implemented which detail the personal protection requirements for employees. The policy includes specifications regarding engineering controls, personal protective equipment (PPE), hazardous waste, chemical exposures, working

with chemicals and safe work practices. Safety requirements specific to processes or equipment are reviewed with the department supervisor or the Health and Safety Manager before beginning operations.

Visitor and Contractor Safety Program. A safety brochure is given to all visitors and contractors who visit or conduct business at the facility. The brochure is designed to inform anyone who is not an employee of Accutest Laboratories of the laboratories safety procedures. The brochure directs them to follow all safety programs and plans while on Accutest property. This program also outlines procedures for visitors and contractors in the event of an emergency. Visitors are required to acknowledge receipt and understanding of the Accutest policy annually.

Appendix I

Glossary of Terms

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Acceptance Criteria: specified limits placed on characteristics of an item, process, or service defined in requirement documents.

Accuracy: the degree of agreement between an observed value and an accepted reference value. Accuracy includes a combination of random error (precision) and systematic error (bias) components which are due to sampling and analytical operations; a data quality indicator.

Analyst: the designated individual who performs the "hands-on" analytical methods and associated techniques and who is the one responsible for applying required laboratory practices and other pertinent quality controls to meet the required level of quality.

Audit: a systematic evaluation to determine the conformance to quantitative *and qualitative* specifications of some operational function or activity.

Batch: environmental samples that are prepared and/or analyzed together with the same process and personnel, using the same lot(s) of reagents. A preparation batch is composed of one to 20 environmental samples of the same NELAC-defined matrix, meeting the above mentioned criteria and with a maximum time between the start of processing of the first and last sample in the batch to be 24 hours. An analytical batch is composed of prepared environmental samples (extracts, digestates or concentrates) which are analyzed together as a group.

Blank: a sample that has not been exposed to the analyzed sample stream in order to monitor contamination during sampling, transport, storage or analysis. The blank is subjected to the usual analytical and measurement process to establish a zero baseline or background value and is sometimes used to adjust or correct routine analytical results.

Blind Sample: a sub-sample for analysis with a composition known to the submitter. The analyst/laboratory may know the identity of the sample but not its composition. It is used to test the analyst's or laboratory's proficiency in the execution of the measurement process.

Calibration: to determine, by measurement or comparison with a standard, the correct value of each scale reading on a meter, instrument, or other device. The levels of the applied calibration standard should bracket the range of planned or expected sample measurements.

Calibration Curve: the graphical relationship between the known values, such as concentrations of a series of calibration standards and their instrument response.

Calibration Method: a defined technical procedure for performing a calibration.

Calibration Standard: a substance or reference material used to calibrate an instrument.

Certified Reference Material (CRM): a reference material one or more of whose property values are certified by a technically valid procedure, accompanied by or traceable to a certificate or other documentation, which is issued by a certifying body.

Chain of Custody: an unbroken trail of accountability that ensures the physical security of samples and includes the signatures of all who handle the samples.

Confirmation: verification of the identity of a component through the use of an approach with a different scientific principle from the original method. These may include, but are not limited to second column confirmation, alternate wavelength, derivatization, mass spectral, interpretation, alternative detectors or, additional cleanup procedures.

Corrective Action: the action taken to eliminate the causes of an existing nonconformity, defect or other undesirable situation in order to prevent recurrence.

Data Reduction: the process of transforming raw data by arithmetic or statistical calculations, standard curves, concentration factors, etc., and collation into a more useable form.

Demonstration of Capability: a procedure to establish the ability of the analyst to generate acceptable accuracy.

Document Control: the act of ensuring that documents (and revisions thereto) are proposed, reviewed for accuracy, approved for release by authorized personnel, distributed properly and controlled to ensure use of the correct version at the location where the prescribed activity is performed.

Duplicate Analyses: the analyses or measurements of the variable of interest performed identically on two sub-samples of the same sample. The results from duplicate analyses are used to evaluate analytical or measurement precision but not the precision of sampling, preservation or storage internal to the laboratory.

Field of Testing: NELAC's approach to accrediting laboratories by program, method and analyte. Laboratories requesting accreditation for a program-method-analyte combination or for an updated/improved method are required submit to only that portion of the accreditation process not previously addressed (see NELAC, section 1.9ff).

Laboratory Control Sample (such as laboratory fortified blank, spiked blank, or QC check sample): a sample matrix, free from the analytes of interest, spiked with verified known amounts of analytes from a source independent of the calibration standards or a material containing known and verified amounts of analytes. It is generally used to establish intra-laboratory or analyst specific precision and bias or to assess the performance of all or a portion of the measurement system.

Matrix: the component or substrate that contains the analyte of interest. For purposes of batch and QC requirement determinations, the following matrix distinctions shall be used:

Aqueous: any aqueous sample excluded from the definition of Drinking Water matrix or Saline/Estuarine source. Includes surface water, groundwater, effluents, and TCLP or other extracts.

Drinking Water: any aqueous sample that has been designated a potable or potential potable water source. **Saline/Estuarine:** any aqueous sample from an ocean or estuary, or other salt-water source such as the Great Salt Lake. **Non-aqueous Liquid:** any organic liquid with <15% settleable solids.

Solids: includes soils, sediments, sludges and other matrices with >15% settleable solids.

Chemical Waste: a product or by-product of an industrial process that results in a matrix not previously defined.

Air: whole gas or vapor samples including those contained in flexible or rigid wall containers and the extracted concentrated analytes of interest from a gas or vapor that are collected with a sorbent tube, impinger solution, filter, or other device.

Biota: animal or plant tissue, consisting of entire organisms, homogenates, and/or organ or structure specific subsamples.

Matrix Spike (spiked sample or fortified sample): a sample prepared by adding a known mass of target analyte to a specified amount of matrix sample for which an independent estimate of target analyte concentration is available. Matrix spikes are used, for example, to determine the effect of the matrix on a method's recovery efficiency.

Matrix Spike Duplicate (spiked sample or fortified sample duplicate): a second replicate matrix spike prepared in the laboratory and analyzed to obtain a measure of the precision of the recovery for each analyte.

Method Blank: a sample of a matrix similar to the batch of associated samples (when available) that is free from the analytes of interest, which is processed simultaneously with and under the same conditions as samples through all steps of the analytical procedures, and in which no target analytes or interferences are present at concentrations that impact the analytical results for sample analyses.

Method Detection Limit: the minimum concentration of a substance (an analyte) that can be measured and reported with 99% confidence that the analyte concentration is greater than zero and is determined from analysis of a sample in a given matrix containing the analyte.

National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (NELAP): the overall National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program.

NELAC Standards: the plan of procedures for consistently evaluating and documenting the ability of laboratories performing environmental measurements to meet nationally defined standards established by the National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Conference.

Performance Audit: the routine comparison of independently obtained *qualitative and quantitative* measurement system data with routinely obtained data in order to evaluate the proficiency of an analyst or laboratory.

Precision: the degree to which a set of observations or measurements of the same property, obtained under similar conditions, conform to themselves; a data quality indicator. Precision is usually expressed as standard deviation, variance or range, in either absolute or relative terms.

Preservation: refrigeration and/or reagents added at the time of sample collection (or later) to maintain the chemical and/or biological integrity of the sample.

Proficiency Testing: a means of evaluating a laboratory's performance under controlled conditions relative to a given set of criteria through analysis of unknown samples provided by an external source.

Proficiency Test Sample (PT): a sample, the composition of which is unknown to the analyst and is provided to test whether the analyst/laboratory can produce analytical results within specified acceptance criteria.

Quality Assurance: an integrated system of activities involving planning, quality control, quality assessment, reporting and quality improvement to ensure that a product or service meets defined standards of quality with a stated level of confidence.

Quality Control: the overall system of technical activities whose purpose is to measure and control the quality of a product or service so that it meets the needs of users.

Quality Manual: a document stating the management policies, objectives, principles, organizational structure and authority, responsibilities, accountability, and implementation of an agency, organization, or laboratory, to ensure the quality of its product and the utility of its product to its users.

Quality System: a structured and documented management system describing the policies, objectives, principles, organizational authority, responsibilities, accountability, and implementation plan of an organization for ensuring quality in its work processes, products (items), and services. The quality system provides the framework for planning, implementing, and assessing work performed by the organization and for carrying out required QA and QC.

Reporting Limits: the maximum or minimum levels, concentrations, or quantities of a target variable (e.g., target analyte) that can be quantified with the confidence level required by the data user.

Reagent Blank (method reagent blank or method blank): a sample consisting of reagent(s), without the target analyte or sample matrix, introduced into the analytical procedure at the appropriate point and carried through all subsequent steps to determine the contribution of the reagents and of the involved analytical steps.

Reference Material: a material or substance one or more properties of which are sufficiently well established to be used for the calibration of an apparatus, the assessment of a measurement method, or for assigning values to materials.

Reference Method: a method of known and documented accuracy and precision issued by an organization recognized as competent to do so.

Reference Standard: a standard, generally of the highest metrological quality available at a given location, from which measurements made at that location are derived.

Replicate Analyses: the measurements of the variable of interest performed identically on two or more sub-samples of the same sample within a short time interval.

Sample Duplicate: two samples taken from and representative of the same population and carried through all steps of the sampling and analytical procedures in an identical manner. Duplicate samples are used to assess variance of the total method including sampling and analysis.

Spike: a known mass of target analyte added to a blank sample or sub-sample; used to determine recovery efficiency or for other quality control purposes.

Standard: the document describing the elements of laboratory accreditation that has been developed and established within the consensus principles of NELAC and meets the approval requirements of NELAC procedures and policies.

Traceability: the property of a result of a measurement whereby it can be related to appropriate standards, generally international or national standards, through an unbroken chain of comparisons.

Validation: the process of substantiating specified performance criteria.

Work Cell: A defined group of analysts that together perform the method analysis. Members of the group and their specific functions within the work cell must be fully documented. A “work cell” is considered to be all those individuals who see a sample through the complete process of preparation, extraction, or analysis. The entire process is completed by a group of capable individuals; each member of the work cell demonstrates capability for each individual step in the method sequence.

Appendix II

Standard Operating Procedures Directory

Accutest Laboratories Standard Operating Procedures

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Field Operations	Aqueous Grab Sampling Procedures	EFP001
Field Operations	Use of Automatic Wastewater Sampler	EFP002
Field Operations	Free and Total residual Chlorine	EFP003
Field Operations	Decontamination of Sampling Equipment	EFP004
Field Operations	Dissolved Oxygen	EFP005
Field Operations	Dissolved Oxygen by Winkler Titration	EFP006
Field Operations	Metal Sample Field Filtering Procedure	EFP008

Accutest Laboratories
Standard Operating Procedures

<u>Section</u>	<u>Standard Operating Procedure Title</u>	<u>Number</u>
Field Operations	Sampling Procedure for Monitoring Wells	EFP013
Field Operations	Subsurface Soil Sampling Procedure	EFP016
Field Operations	Surface Soil Sampling Procedure	EFP017
Field Operations	Residential Potable Well Sampling Procedure	EFP018
Field Operations	Potable Water Line Sampling Procedure	EFP019
Field Operations	Sampling for NJ Private Well Testing Act	EFP020
Field Operations	Field Sampling Coordinates by GPS	EFP021
Field Operations	Sampling Drinking Water Wells for Volatile Organics	EFP022
Field Operations	Sampling Drinking Water Wells for Metals	EFP023
Field Operations	Sampling Drinking Water Wells for Nitrates & Nitrites	EFP024
Field Operations	Sampling Drinking Water Wells for Gross Alpha	EFP025
Field Operations	Sampling Drinking Water Wells for Coliform Bacteria	EFP026
Field Operations	Sampling Drinking Water Wells for pH	EFP027
Field Operations	Field Oxidation-Reduction Potential	EFP029
Field Operations	Turbidity, Field Test	EFP030
Field Operations	Analysis for Dissolved Oxygen by DO Probe	EFP031
Field Operations	Field pH in Water by Electrode	EFP032
Field Operations	Field Measurement of Specific Conductance and Resistivity	EFP033

Appendix III

Analytical Capabilities

Method Capabilities By NELAC Accredited Fields of Testing

<u>Analytes</u>	<u>Method Number</u>	<u>Program</u>	<u>Chemistry Field</u>
Alkalinity	SM 2320 B	Drinking Water	Inorganic Wet Chem
Ammonia	SM 4500NH ₃ -H	Drinking Water	Inorganic Wet Chem
Chloride, Fluoride, Sulfate	EPA 300.0	Drinking Water	Inorganic Wet Chem
Chlorine, Total Residual	SM 4500-CL F	Drinking Water	Inorganic Wet Chem
Color, Apparent	SM 2120 B	Drinking Water	Inorganic Wet Chem
Conductivity	SM 2510 B	Drinking Water	Inorganic Wet Chem
Cyanide	EPA 335.4	Drinking Water	Inorganic Wet Chem
Foaming Agents (MBAS)	SM 5540 C	Drinking Water	Inorganic Wet Chem
Nitrate/Nitrite	EPA 353.2	Drinking Water	Inorganic Wet Chem
Nitrite	SM 4500-NO ₂ -B	Drinking Water	Inorganic Wet Chem
Odor	SM 2150 B	Drinking Water	Inorganic Wet Chem
Organic Carbon, Total (TOC)	SM 5310 B	Drinking Water	Inorganic Wet Chem
Orthophosphate	SM 4500 P-E	Drinking Water	Inorganic Wet Chem
Perchlorate	EPA 314.0	Drinking Water	Inorganic Wet Chem
pH, Hydrogen Ion	SM 4500H ⁺ -B	Drinking Water	Inorganic Wet Chem
Silica – Dissolved	SM 4500 Si-D	Drinking Water	Inorganic Wet Chem
Temperature	SM 2550 B	Drinking Water	Inorganic Wet Chem
Total Dissolved Solids	SM 2540 C	Drinking Water	Inorganic Wet Chem
Total Organic Halides (TOX)	SM 5320 B	Drinking Water	Inorganic Wet Chem
Turbidity	EPA 180.1	Drinking Water	Inorganic Wet Chem
Hardness – Calcium	EPA 200.7	Drinking Water	Metals
Hardness – Calcium	SM 2340B	Drinking Water	Metals
Hardness – Total	EPA 200.7	Drinking Water	Metals
Hardness – Total	SM 2340C	Drinking Water	Metals
Mercury	EPA 245.1	Drinking Water	Metals
Metals	EPA 200.7	Drinking Water	Metals
Metals	EPA 200.8	Drinking Water	Metals
Chlorinated Herbicides	EPA 515.1	Drinking Water	Organics
DBCP, EDB & TCP	EPA 504.1	Drinking Water	Organics
Volatile Organics	EPA 524.2	Drinking Water	Organics
Total Coliform/ E. Coli	SM 9223 B	Drinking Water	Microbiology
Heterotrophic Bacteria	SM 9215 B	Drinking Water	Microbiology
Acidity as CaCO ₃	SM 2310 B(4A)	Wastewater	Inorganic Wet Chem
Alkalinity as CaCO ₃	SM 2320 B	Wastewater	Inorganic Wet Chem
Ammonia	SM20 4500 NH ₃ -B+G	Wastewater	Inorganic Wet Chem
Biochemical Oxygen Demand	SM 5210B	Wastewater	Inorganic Wet Chem
Bromide, Chloride, Fluoride, Sulfate	EPA 300.0	Wastewater	Inorganic Wet Chem

Method Capabilities By NELAC Accredited Fields of Testing

<u>Analytes</u>	<u>Method Number</u>	<u>Program</u>	<u>Chemistry Field</u>
Carbonaceous BOD (CBOD)	SM 5210 B	Wastewater	Inorganic Wet Chem
Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD)	SM 5220 C	Wastewater	Inorganic Wet Chem
Chloride	SM 4500 Cl-C	Wastewater	Inorganic Wet Chem
Chlorine, Total Residual	SM 4500-CLF	Wastewater	Inorganic Wet Chem
Chromium (VI)	SM 3500-Cr D	Wastewater	Inorganic Wet Chem
Chromium (VI)	EPA 218.6	Wastewater	Inorganic Wet Chem
Color, Apparent	SM 2120 B	Wastewater	Inorganic Wet Chem
Cyanide (Sample Preparation)	SM 4500 CN-C,E	Wastewater	Inorganic Wet Chem
Cyanide (Analytical Finish)	EPA 335.4	Wastewater	Inorganic Wet Chem
Cyanide Amenable to Cl ₂	SM 4500 CN-C,G	Wastewater	Inorganic Wet Chem
Hardness – Total as CaCO ₃	SM 2340 B or C	Wastewater	Inorganic Wet Chem
Kjeldahl Nitrogen – Total	EPA 351.2	Wastewater	Inorganic Wet Chem
Nitrate/Nitrite	EPA 353.2	Wastewater	Inorganic Wet Chem
Nitrite	SM 4500-NO ₂ -B	Wastewater	Inorganic Wet Chem
Oil & Grease - HEM-LL	EPA 1664A	Wastewater	Inorganic Wet Chem
Oil & Grease – SGT-HEM, non-polar	EPA 1664A	Wastewater	Inorganic Wet Chem
Organic Nitrogen	SM 4500 N	Wastewater	Inorganic Wet Chem
Orthophosphate	SM 4500 P-E	Wastewater	Inorganic Wet Chem
Oxygen, Dissolved	SM 4500 O-C	Wastewater	Inorganic Wet Chem
Oxygen, Dissolved	SM 4500 O-G	Wastewater	Inorganic Wet Chem
pH Hydrogen Ion	SM 4500 H ⁺ -B	Wastewater	Inorganic Wet Chem
Phenols	EPA 420.1 + .4	Wastewater	Inorganic Wet Chem
Phosphorus (Total)	EPA 365.3	Wastewater	Inorganic Wet Chem
Residue – Filterable (TDS)	SM 2540 C	Wastewater	Inorganic Wet Chem
Residue – Nonfilterable (TSS)	SM 2540 D	Wastewater	Inorganic Wet Chem
Residue – Settlable	SM 2540 F	Wastewater	Inorganic Wet Chem
Residue – Total	SM 2540 B	Wastewater	Inorganic Wet Chem
Residue – Volatile	EPA 160.4	Wastewater	Inorganic Wet Chem
Total, fixed, and volatile solids (SQAR)	SM 2540 G-18 th Ed.	Wastewater	Inorganic Wet Chem
Salinity	SM 2520 B	Wastewater	Inorganic Wet Chem
Silica – Dissolved	SM 4500 Si-D	Wastewater	Inorganic Wet Chem
Specific Conductance	SM 2510B	Wastewater	Inorganic Wet Chem
Sulfide – S	SM 4500 S, E or F	Wastewater	Inorganic Wet Chem
Sulfite - SO ₃	SM 4500 SO ₃ -B	Wastewater	Inorganic Wet Chem
Surfactants (Methylene Blue)	SM 5540 C	Wastewater	Inorganic Wet Chem
Temperature	SM 2550 B	Wastewater	Inorganic Wet Chem
Total Organic Carbon (TOC)	SM 5310 B, C or D	Wastewater	Inorganic Wet Chem
Turbidity	EPA 180.1	Wastewater	Inorganic Wet Chem
Hardness - Total as CaCO ₃	EPA 200.7	Wastewater	Metals
Hardness - Total as CaCO ₃	SM 2340C	Wastewater	Metals
Mercury	EPA 245.1	Wastewater	Metals

Method Capabilities By NELAC Accredited Fields of Testing

<u>Analytes</u>	<u>Method Number</u>	<u>Program</u>	<u>Chemistry Field</u>
Metals – ICP	EPA 200.7	Wastewater	Metals
Metals – ICP/MS	EPA 200.8	Wastewater	Metals
Acrolein & Acrylonitrile	EPA 603	Wastewater	Organics
Base/Neutrals and Acids	EPA 625	Wastewater	Organics
Organochlorine Pests & PCBs	EPA 608	Wastewater	Organics
Purgeable Aromatics	EPA 602	Wastewater	Organics
Volatile Organics	EPA 624	Wastewater	Organics
Coliform, Fecal , No./100 ml	SM 9222 D	Wastewater	Microbiology
Coliform, Total , Number/100 ml	SM 9222 B	Wastewater	Microbiology
Heterotrophic Plate Count	SM 9215B	Wastewater	Microbiology
Acid Soluble/Insoluble Sulfides	SW846 9034	Solid/Haz. Waste	Inorganic Wet Chem
Bromide, Chloride, Fluoride, Sulfate	SW846 9056	Solid/Haz. Waste	Inorganic Wet Chem
Cation – Exchange Capacity	SW846 9081	Solid/Haz. Waste	Inorganic Wet Chem
Chromium (VI) Digestion	SW846 3060A	Solid/Haz. Waste	Inorganic Wet Chem
Chromium (VI)	SW846 7196A	Solid/Haz. Waste	Inorganic Wet Chem
Chromium (VI)	SW846 7199	Solid/Haz. Waste	Inorganic Wet Chem
Corrosivity/pH, >20% H ₂ O	SW846 9040C	Solid/Haz. Waste	Inorganic Wet Chem
Cyanide	SW846 9010B	Solid/Haz. Waste	Inorganic Wet Chem
Cyanide, Cl ₂ Amenable	SW846 9010B	Solid/Haz. Waste	Inorganic Wet Chem
Cyanide	SW846 9012B	Solid/Haz. Waste	Inorganic Wet Chem
Extractable Organic Halides	SW846 9023	Solid/Haz. Waste	Inorganic Wet Chem
Free Liquid	SW846 9095	Solid/Haz. Waste	Inorganic Wet Chem
Ignitability	SW846 1010A	Solid/Haz. Waste	Inorganic Wet Chem
Oil & Grease – HEM	EPA 1664A	Solid/Haz. Waste	Inorganic Wet Chem
Oil & Grease, Sludge – HEM	SW846 9071B	Solid/Haz. Waste	Inorganic Wet Chem
pH, Hydrogen Ion	SW846 9040C	Solid/Haz. Waste	Inorganic Wet Chem
pH, Hydrogen Ion, Waste, >20% Water	SW846 9040C	Solid/Haz. Waste	Inorganic Wet Chem
pH, Soil and Waste	SW846 9045C	Solid/Haz. Waste	Inorganic Wet Chem
Phenols (Sample Preparation)	SW846 9065	Solid/Haz. Waste	Inorganic Wet Chem
Phenols (Analytical Finish)	SW846 9066	Solid/Haz. Waste	Inorganic Wet Chem
Specific Conductance	SW846 9050A	Solid/Haz. Waste	Inorganic Wet Chem
SPLP Metals/Organics	SW846 1312	Solid/Haz. Waste	Inorganic Wet Chem
TCLP Metals/Semi Volatile Organics	SW846 1311	Solid/Haz. Waste	Inorganic Wet Chem
TCLP Volatile Organics	SW846 1311	Solid/Haz. Waste	Inorganic Wet Chem
Temperature	SM18 2550 B	Solid/Haz. Waste	Inorganic Wet Chem
Total Organic Carbon (TOC)	SW846 9060 A	Solid/Haz. Waste	Inorganic Wet Chem
Total Organic Halides (TOX)	SW846 9020B	Solid/Haz. Waste	Inorganic Wet Chem
Metals – Solids	SW846 3050B	Solid/Haz. Waste	Metals Prep

Method Capabilities By NELAC Accredited Fields of Testing

<u>Analytes</u>	<u>Method Number</u>	<u>Program</u>	<u>Chemistry Field</u>
Metals, Total - Water	SW846 3010A	Solid/Haz. Waste	Metals Prep
Metals, Total – Water, Rec. + Dissolved	SW846 3005A	Solid/Haz. Waste	Metals Prep
Mercury, Liquid Waste	SW846 7470A	Solid/Haz. Waste	Metals Analysis
Mercury, Solid Waste	SW846 7471A	Solid/Haz. Waste	Metals Analysis
Metals – ICP	SW846 6010B	Solid/Haz. Waste	Metals Analysis
Metals – ICP/MS	SW846 6020	Solid/Haz. Waste	Metals Analysis
Semivolatile – Acid/Base Partition	SW846 3650B	Solid/Haz. Waste	Organics Prep
Semivolatile – Alumina Cleanup	SW846 3610B	Solid/Haz. Waste	Organics Prep
Semivolatile – Alumina Cleanup – Petro	SW846 3611B	Solid/Haz. Waste	Organics Prep
Semivolatile – Florisil Cleanup	SW846 3620B	Solid/Haz. Waste	Organics Prep
Semivolatile – Gel Permeation Cleanup	SW846 3640A	Solid/Haz. Waste	Organics Prep
Semivolatile – Silica Gel Cleanup	SW846 3630C	Solid/Haz. Waste	Organics Prep
Semivolatile – Sulfur Cleanup	SW846 3660B	Solid/Haz. Waste	Organics Prep
Semivolatile – Sulfuric Acid/MnO ₂	SW846 3665A	Solid/Haz. Waste	Organics Prep
Semivolatile Prep – Pressurized Fluid	SW846 3545	Solid/Haz. Waste	Organics Prep
Semivolatile Prep – Waste Dilution	SW846 3580A	Solid/Haz. Waste	Organics Prep
Semivolatile Prep Solid - Sonication	SW846 3550B	Solid/Haz. Waste	Organics Prep
Semivolatile Prep Solids - Soxhlet	SW846 3540C	Solid/Haz. Waste	Organics Prep
Semivolatile Prep Water	SW846 3520C	Solid/Haz. Waste	Organics Prep
Semivolatile Prep Water	SW846 3510C	Solid/Haz. Waste	Organics Prep
Volatile – Headspace	SW846 3810	Solid/Haz. Waste	Organics Prep
Volatile – Purge & Trap Solids: High	SW846 5035H	Solid/Haz. Waste	Organics Prep
Volatile – Purge & Trap Solids: Low	SW846 5035L	Solid/Haz. Waste	Organics Prep
Volatile – Purge and Trap – Water	SW846 5030B	Solid/Haz. Waste	Organics Prep
Alcohols	SW846 8015B	Solid/Haz. Waste	Organics Analysis
Aromatic/Halogenated Volatile	SW846 8021B	Solid/Haz. Waste	Organics Analysis
Base/Neutrals and Acids	SW846 8270C	Solid/Haz. Waste	Organics Analysis
Chlorinated Herbicides	SW846 8151A	Solid/Haz. Waste	Organics Analysis
DBCP, EDB & TCP	SW846 8011	Solid/Haz. Waste	Organics Analysis
Diesel Range Organic	SW846 8015B	Solid/Haz. Waste	Organics Analysis
Dissolved Gas/Aqueous Media	RSK-175	Solid/Haz. Waste	Organics Analysis
Ethylene Glycol & Propylene Glycol	SW846 8260B	Solid/Haz. Waste	Organics Analysis
Gasoline Range Organic	SW846 8015B	Solid/Haz. Waste	Organics Analysis
Organochlorine Pesticides	SW846 8081A	Solid/Haz. Waste	Organics Analysis
PCBs	SW846 8082	Solid/Haz. Waste	Organics Analysis
Polynuclear Aromatic HCs	SW846 8100	Solid/Haz. Waste	Organics Analysis
Polynuclear Aromatic HCs	SW846 8310	Solid/Haz. Waste	Organics Analysis
Volatile Organics	SW846 8260B	Solid/Haz. Waste	Organics Analysis

Method Capabilities By NELAC Accredited Fields of Testing

<u>Analytes</u>	<u>Method Number</u>	<u>Program</u>	<u>Chemistry Field</u>
Volatile Organics	EPA TO – 3	Clean Air Act	Organics
Volatile Organics	EPA TO –15	Clean Air Act	Organics

Method Capabilities – Non NELAC Methods

<u>Analytes</u>	<u>Method Number</u>	<u>Program</u>	<u>Chemistry Field</u>
Phenols	EPA 420.4	Drinking Water	Inorganic
Carbon Dioxide	SM 4500CO2C/D	Wastewater	Inorganic
Iron, Ferrous	SM 3500 - FE D	Wastewater	Inorganic
Nonionic Surfactants as CTAS	SM 5540 D	Wastewater	Inorganic
Particulate Matter	EPA 160.2M	Wastewater	Inorganic
Petroleum Hydrocarbons	EPA 418.1	Wastewater	Inorganic
Phosphorus, Hydrolyzable	EPA 365.3	Wastewater	Inorganic
Redox Potential Vs H2	ASTM D1498-76	Wastewater	Inorganic
Specific Gravity	ASTM D1298-85	Wastewater	Inorganic
Tetraethyl Lead	ASTM D3341-91M	Wastewater	Inorganic
Total Organic Content	ASTM D2974-87	Wastewater	Inorganic
Unburned Combustibles	EPA 160.1/160.4	Wastewater	Inorganic
Viscosity	ASTM D445/6	Wastewater	Inorganic
Volatile Suspended Solids	EPA 160.2/160.4	Wastewater	Inorganic
Weak Acid Dissoc. CN Prep	SM 4500CN-I	Wastewater	Inorganic
Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons	NJOQA – QAM - 025	Wastewater	Organics
Ammonia	EPA 350.1M	Solid/Haz Waste	Inorganic
Ammonia	EPA 350.2M	Solid/Haz Waste	Inorganic
Base Sediment	ASTM D473-81	Solid/Haz Waste	Inorganic
Bulk Density (Dry Basis)	ASTM D2937-94M	Solid/Haz Waste	Inorganic
Chemical Oxygen Demand	HACH 8000M	Solid/Haz Waste	Inorganic
Chloride	EPA 325.3M	Solid/Haz Waste	Inorganic
Grain Size & Sieve Testing	ASTM D422-63	Solid/Haz Waste	Inorganic
Heat Content, BTU	ASTM D3286-85	Solid/Haz Waste	Inorganic
Ignitability (Flashpoint)	ASTM D93-90/SW846 Ch 7	Solid/Haz Waste	Inorganic
Moisture, Karl Fischer	ASTM D1744-92	Solid/Haz Waste	Inorganic
Neutral Leaching Procedure	ASTM D3987-85	Solid/Haz Waste	Inorganic
Nitrate/Nitrite	EPA 353.2M	Solid/Haz Waste	Inorganic
Organic Matter (Ignition Loss)	AASHTO T267-86M	Solid/Haz Waste	Inorganic
Orthophosphate	EPA 365.2M	Solid/Haz Waste	Inorganic
Percent Ash (Dry Basis)	ASTM D482-91	Solid/Haz Waste	Inorganic
Percent Solids	ASTM D4643-00	Solid/Haz Waste	Inorganic
Percent Sulfur	ASTM D129-61	Solid/Haz Waste	Inorganic
Petroleum Hydrocarbons	EPA 418.1M	Solid/Haz Waste	Inorganic
Phosphorus (Total)	EPA 365.3M	Solid/Haz Waste	Inorganic
Phosphorus, Hydrolyzable	EPA 365.3M	Solid/Haz Waste	Inorganic
Pour Point	ASTM D97-87	Solid/Haz Waste	Inorganic
Reactivity (Cyanide)	SW846 7.3.3.2	Solid/Haz. Waste	Inorganic
Reactivity (Sulfide)	SW846 7.3.4.2	Solid/Haz. Waste	Inorganic
Redox Potential Vs H2	ASTM D1498-76M	Solid/Haz Waste	Inorganic

Method Capabilities – Non NELAC Methods

<u>Analytes</u>	<u>Method Number</u>	<u>Program</u>	<u>Chemistry Field</u>
Specific Gravity of Solids	ASTM D1429-86M	Solid/Haz Waste	Inorganic
Sulfide – S	EPA 376.1 M	Solid/Haz Waste	Inorganic
Sulfite - SO ₃	EPA 377.1M	Solid/Haz Waste	Inorganic
Tetraethyl Lead	ASTM D3341-91M	Solid/Haz Waste	Inorganic
Total Chlorine	ASTM D808-91	Solid/Haz Waste	Inorganic
Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen	EPA 351.2M	Solid/Haz Waste	Inorganic
Total Organic Carbon	CORP ENG 81	Solid/Haz Waste	Inorganic
Total Organic Carbon	LLOYD KAHN 1988	Solid/Haz Waste	Inorganic
Total Organic Chlorine	ASTM D808-91M	Solid/Haz Waste	Inorganic
Total Plate Count	SM 9215BM	Solid/Haz Waste	Inorganic
Total Volatile Solids	EPA 160.4M	Solid/Haz Waste	Inorganic
Water Content	ASTM D95-83	Solid/Haz Waste	Inorganic
Multiple Extractions	SW846 1320	Solid/Haz Waste	Inorganic
Combustion, Bomb Oxidation	SW846 5050	Solid/Haz Waste	Inorganic
Bomb Calorimeter	ASTM D-240	Solid/Haz Waste	Inorganic
Extractable Petroleum HCs	Massachusetts EPH	Solid/Haz Waste	Organics
Extractable Petroleum HCs	Missouri DRO	Solid/Haz Waste	Organics
Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons	NJOQA – QAM - 025	Solid/Haz Waste	Organics
Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons	FLDEP FL – PRO	Solid/Haz Waste	Organics
Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons	Connecticut ETPH	Solid/Haz Waste	Organics
Volatile Petroleum HCs	Massachusetts VPH	Solid/Haz Waste	Organics
Volatile Petroleum HCs	Missouri GRO	Solid/Haz Waste	Organics

Appendix IV

Laboratory Equipment

<u>Equipment</u>	<u>Manufacture & Description</u>	<u>Serial Number</u>	<u>Operating System Software</u>	<u>Data Processing Software</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Purchase</u>
HPLC-1	Agilent Technologies 1100Series G1321A, G1315B, G1316A, G1379A	DE33205279; DE33219455; DE33234553; JP13210348	HP Chemstation	HP Enviroquant	Semi- Volatiles Annex	2003
GC/MS-S	Hewlett-Packard 6890/5973 MSD/OI 4552/4660 ARCHON	US00024322/ US82311313	HP Chemstation	HP Enviroquant	Organics – Volatiles	2000
GC/MS-T	Hewlett-Packard 6890/5973 MSD/OI 4551A/4660 P&T	US00024323/ US82311482	HP Chemstation	HP Enviroquant	Organics – Volatiles	2000
GC/MS-F	Hewlett-Packard 6890/5973 MSD/HP 7683 AS	US00034179/ US82601551	HP Chemstation	HP Enviroquant	Organics – Semi- Volatiles	1998
GC/MS-R	Hewlett-Packard 6890/5973 MSD/HP 7683 AS	US00021820/ US81501001	HP Chemstation	HP Enviroquant	Organics – Semi- Volatiles	1998
GC/MS-B	Hewlett-Packard 5890II+/5972 MSD/Agilent 7673	3336A61054/ 3524A03106	HP Chemstation	HP Enviroquant	Organics – Semi- Volatiles	1996
GC/MS-H	Hewlett-Packard 5890II+/5972 MSD/HP 7673 AS	3336A58190/ 3501A02356	HP Chemstation	HP Enviroquant	Organics – Semi- Volatiles	1995
GC/MS-Q	Hewlett-Packard 5890II/5971 MSD/Entech Air Samp 7000	3033A31092/ 3188A02934	HP Chemstation	HP Enviroquant	Air Laboratory	1993
GC/MS-L	Hewlett-Packard 5890/5970 MSD/OI 4551/4560 P&T	2921A22898/ 2623A01291	HP Chemstation	HP Enviroquant	Organics – Volatiles	1992
GC/MS-J	Hewlett-Packard 5890/5970 MSD/OI 4552/4560 P&T	2643A11557/ 2716A10379	HP Chemstation	HP Enviroquant	Organics – Volatiles	1990
GC/MS-K	Hewlett-Packard 5890II/ 5970 MSD/OI 4551/4560 P&T	2750A116838/ 2905A11628	HP Chemstation	HP Enviroquant	Organics – Volatiles	1990

<u>Equipment</u>	<u>Manufacture & Description</u>	<u>Serial Number</u>	<u>Operating System Software</u>	<u>Data Processing Software</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Purchase</u>
GC/MS-C	Hewlett-Packard 5890/5970 MSD/HP OI 4552/4560	2623A08318/ 2807A1146	HP Chemstation	HP Enviroquant	Organics – Volatiles	1990
GC/MS-G	Hewlett-Packard 5890II/5970 MSD/OI 4552/4660	2905A11905/ 2807A11004	HP Chemstation	HP Enviroquant	Organics – Volatiles	1989
GC/MS-M	Hewlett-Packard 6890/5973 MSD/HP 7683 AS	US00021813/ US802111003	HP Chemstation	HP Enviroquant	Organics – Semi-Volatiles	1999
GC/MS-A	Hewlett-Packard 6890/5973 MSD/OI 4552/4560 ARCHON	US00033272/ US94212183	HP Chemstation	HP Enviroquant	Organics – Volatiles	2000
GC/MS-E	Hewlett-Packard 6890/5973 MSD/OI 4551/4560 P&T	US00031161/ US93112044	HP Chemstation	HP Enviroquant	Organics – Volatiles	2001
GC/MS-N	Hewlett-Packard 5890/5970 MSD/Tekmar 2000/2032 P&T	2750A17088/ 2716A10218	HP Chemstation	HP Enviroquant	Organics – Volatiles	1988
GC/MS-I	Hewlett-Packard 5890/5970 MSD/OI 4551/4560	2643A10503/ 2637A01687	HP Chemstation	HP Enviroquant	Organics – Volatiles	1986
GC/MS-D	Hewlett-Packard 6890/5973 MSD/OI 4551/4560 P&T	US00030551 / US93122843	HP Chemstation	HP Enviroquant	Organics – Volatiles	2001
GC/MS-V	Agilent Technologies 5973/6890N AS 4552/4560	US10149085/US10441917	HP Chemstation	HP Enviroquant	Organics – Volatiles	2002
GC/MS-W	Agilent Technologies 5973/6890N AS Entech 7016CA	US44621455/CN10517032	HP Chemstation	HP Enviroquant	Air Laboratory	2005
GC/MS-X	Agilent Technologies 5973/6890N AS 4552/4660	US21843889 / US10239071	HP Chemstation	HP Enviroquant	Organics – Volatiles	2002
GC/MS-Y	Agilent Technologies 5973/6890N AS 4552/4560	US10240013 / US21844012	HP Chemstation	HP Enviroquant	Organics – Volatiles	2002

<u>Equipment</u>	<u>Manufacture & Description</u>	<u>Serial Number</u>	<u>Operating System Software</u>	<u>Data Processing Software</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Purchase</u>
GC/MS-P	Agilent Technologies 5973/6890N AS 4552/4560	US10251064 / US21844596	HP Chemstation	HP Enviroquant	Organics – Semi-Volatiles	2003
GC/MS-Z	Agilent Technologies 5973/6890N AS 4552/4560	US10251028 / US21844586	HP Chemstation	HP Enviroquant	Organics – Semi-Volatiles	2003
GC/MS-U	Hewlett-Packard 6890/5973 MSD/HP 4551A/4660	US00032623/ US94212183	HP Chemstation	HP Enviroquant	Organics – Volatiles	1999
GC/MS-1A	Agilent Technologies 5973/6890N AS 4551A/4660	CN10314026/ US30945331	HP Chemstation	HP Enviroquant	Organics – Volatiles	2003
GC/MS-1B	Agilent Technologies 7890A/5975C Teledyne/Tekmar AquaTek AS	CN10845177/US83111119	HP Chemstation	HP Enviroquant	Organics – Volatiles	2008
GC/MS-2A	Agilent Technologies 5973/6890N AS Tekmar Solatek 72	CN10314028/ US30945325	HP Chemstation	HP Enviroquant	Organics – Volatiles	2003
GC/MS-3A	Agilent Technologies 5973/6890N AS 4551A/4660	CN10432042/US43146776	HP Chemstation	HP Enviroquant	Organics – Volatiles	2004
GC/MS-1C	Agilent Technologies 5973/6890N AS 4551/4560	CN10425085/ US 41746667	HP Chemstation	HP Enviroquant	Organics – Volatiles	2004
GC/MS-2D	Agilent Technologies 5973/6890N AS 4552/4560	CN10432038/ US 43146771	HP Chemstation	HP Enviroquant	Organics – Volatiles	2004
GC/MS-2W	Agilent Technologies 5973/6890N AS Entech 7016CA	CN10413022 / US40646500	HP Chemstation	HP Enviroquant	Air Laboratory	2004
GC/MS-2B	Agilent Technologies 5973/6890N AS 4551A/4660	CN10441033/ US 43146954	HP Chemstation	HP Enviroquant	Organics – Volatiles	2004
GC/MS-2C	Agilent Technologies 5973/6890N AS 4551A/4560	CN10441035/ US 43146953	HP Chemstation	HP Enviroquant	Organics – Volatiles	2004

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GC/MS-3B	Agilent Technologies 6890/5973/ OI 4551A/4660	US10240044/ US21844015	HP Chemstation	HP Enviroquant	Organics – Volatiles	2002
GC/MS-3C	Agilent Technologies 5973/6890N AS 45551A/4660	CN10517038/ US44621480	HP Chemstation	HP Enviroquant	Organics – Volatiles	2005
GC/MS-3D	Agilent Technologies 5975B/6890N AS 4551A/4660	CN10637120/ US62724193	HP Chemstation	HP Enviroquant	Organics – Volatiles	2006
GC/MS-2E	Agilent Technologies 5975/6890N AS 4551A/4660	CN10612046/ US60532596	HP Chemstation	HP Enviroquant	Organics – Volatiles	2006
GC/MS-3E	Agilent Technologies 5975/6890N Agilent 7683	CN10614011/ US61332852	HP Chemstation	HP Enviroquant	Organics – Semi-Volatiles	2006
GC/MS-2M	Agilent Technologies 5973/6890N AS 4552/12720	CN10612028/ US60532578	HP Chemstation	HP Enviroquant	Organics – Semi-Volatiles	2006
GC/MS-3W	Agilent Technologies 5973/6890N Entech 7016A	CN10425086/ US41746669	HP Chemstation	HP Enviroquant	Air Laboratory	2007
GC/MS-3M	Agilent Technologies 5975B/6890N	US65125107/ CN10703029	HP Chemstation	HP Enviroquant	Organics – Semi-Volatiles	2007
GC/MS-4M	Agilent Technologies 5975C/7890A Agilent 7683B	US73317574/ CN1074251	HP Chemstation	HP Enviroquant	Organics-Semi Volatiles	11/2007
GC-AB	Hewlett-Packard 5890/Dual ECD/HP 7673 AS	2413A03719	HP Chemstation	HP Enviroquant	Organics - Semi-Volatiles	1990
GC –XX	Hewlett-Packard 6890/Dual ECD/HP 7683 AS	US00022968	HP Chemstation	HP Enviroquant	Organics - Semi-Volatiles	1998

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GC-2Y2Z	Agilent Technologies 6890N & N10149	CN10407032/ CN40327643	HP Chemstation	HP Enviroquant	Organics - Semi- Volatiles	2004
GC-YZ/ZZ	Hewlett-Packard 6890/PID/FID/OI HP GC System Injector	US00011065 US83806744	HP Chemstation	HP Enviroquant	Organics - Semi- Volatiles	1998
GC-AA	Agilent 7890A As 7683B	CN10832133 US08232002	HP Chemstation	HP Enviroquant	Organics - Volatiles	2008
GC-LM	Hewlett-Packard 6890/PID/FID/OI 4551/4560 P&T	US00008927	HP Chemstation	HP Enviroquant	Organics - Volatiles	1998
GC-WW	Hewlett-Packard 6890/Dual ECD/HP 7673 AS	US00010037	HP Chemstation	HP Enviroquant	Organics - Semi- Volatiles	1997
GC-ST	Hewlett-Packard 5890/FID/NPD/HP 7673 AS/Tek	314OA38871	HP Chemstation	HP Enviroquant	Organics - Volatiles	1996
GC- UV	Hewlett-Packard 5890/Dual FID/ OI 4551/4560	2921A23322	HP Chemstation	HP Enviroquant	Organics - Semi- Volatiles	1996
GC-NP	Hewlett-Packard 5890/PID/FID/Tekmar solatek 72	3336A58858	HP Chemstation	HP Enviroquant	Organics - Volatiles	1995
GC-CD	Hewlett-Packard 5890/Dual ECD/HP 7673 AS	3336A58788	HP Chemstation	HP Enviroquant	Organics - Semi- Volatiles	1995
GC-JK	Hewlett-Packard 5890/PID/Hall/4552/4560ARCHON	3336A51043	HP Chemstation	HP Enviroquant	Organics - Volatiles	1994
GC-QR	Hewlett Packard 5890/PID/FID/Entech AutoAir7000	3336A51044	HP Chemstation	HP Enviroquant	Air Laboratory	1993

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GC-EF	Hewlett-Packard 5890/Dual ECD/HP 7673 AS	2541A06786	HP Chemstation	HP Enviroquant	Organics - Volatiles	1992
GC-II	Hewlett-Packard 5890 Series II	3203A40375	HP Chemstation	HP Enviroquant	Organics - Semi-Volatiles	1994
GC-GH	Hewlett-Packard 5890/Dual ECD/HP 7673 AS	2938A25059	HP Chemstation	HP Enviroquant	Organics - Semi-Volatiles	1990
GC-2G (I)	Agilent Technologies 6890N/7683	CN10450110	HP Chemstation	HP Enviroquant	Organics - Semi-Volatiles	2005
GC-3G (J)	Agilent Technologies 6890N/7683	CN10450109	HP Chemstation	HP Enviroquant	Organics - Semi-Volatiles	2005
GC-SC	Hewlett-Packard 5890/FID/OI4551/4560	2443AO3797	HP Chemstation	HP Enviroquant	Organics - Volatiles	1990
GC-QT	Agilent Technologies 6890N	US10235024	HP Chemstation	HP Enviroquant	Organics - Semi-Volatiles	2002
GC-OA/OB	Agilent Technologies 6890N	US10240147	HP Chemstation	HP Enviroquant	Organics - Semi-Semi-Volatiles	2002
GC-G1/1H	Agilent Technologies 6890N/7683	US10322012/ CN3203089	HP Chemstation	HP Enviroquant	Organics - Semi-Volatiles	2003
GC-3Y/3Z	Agilent Technologies 7890A/7683B Dual FID	CN10735014/ CN73345070	HP Chemstation	HP Enviroquant	Organics - Semi-Volatiles	2007

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GC-SR	Hewlett-Packard 5890/FID/Tekmar 7000	2612A07448	HP Chemstation	HP Enviroquant	Organics - Screening	1992
GC-SV	Hewlett-Packard 5890/FID/OI4551/4560	LR47-359C/ N244460743	HP Chemstation	HP Enviroquant	Organics - Screening	1996
GC-SY	Hewlett-Packard 5890/FID/OI4551A/4560	2643A10503	HP Chemstation	HP Enviroquant	Organics - Screening	1990
GPC4	Waters 717	717-000152	None	N/A	Organic Prep	1992
ASE	Dionex ASE 200	99040595	None	N/A	Organic Prep	1999
ASE	Dionex ASE 200	99040603	None	N/A	Organic Prep	1999
ASE	Dionex ASE 200	03040695	None	N/A	Organic Prep	2005
ASE	Dionex ASE 200	99030375	None	N/A	Organic Prep	1999
Sonicator	Sonics Vibracell VC 750	31800A	None	N/A	Organic Prep	2000
Sonicator	TEKMAR Sonicator	6916	None	N/A	Organic Prep	1997
ICP-MS	Thermo Elemental X series ICP-MS	X0180	Thermo PlasmaLab	Thermo PlasmaLab	Metals Laboratory	2003
ICP	TJA Enviro Trace 61E Simultaneous	10970	Thermo ICP Manager	Thermo ICP Manager	Metals Laboratory	2000
ICP	Thermo ICAP 6500 (6500)	ICP-20072001	ITEVA	ITEVA	Metals Laboratory	2007
ICP	Thermo ICP 6500 Duo	ICP-20074989	ITEVA	ITEVA	Metals Laboratory	2007

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Hg Analyzer	Leeman Mercury Analyzer HYDRAA	HA-3011	WIN Hg Runner	WIN Hg Runner	Wet Chem	2003
Hg Analyzer	Leeman Mercury Analyzer PS200II	Hg6037	Leeman PS #150-00052	Leeman PS #150-00052	Wet Chem	1999
Auto Anal.	Lachat Quikchem 8000	A83000-2273	OMNION FIA	OMNION FIA	Wet Chem	2004
Auto Anal.	Lachat Quikchem 8000	A83000-1402	OMNION FIA	OMNION FIA	Wet Chem	1999
TOC Anal.	Shimadzu 5000 Series A/S system	30825274	Shimadzu TOC Control	Shimadzu TOC Control	Wet Chem	2000
TOC Anal.	Shimadzu 5000 Series A/S system	35517409	Shimadzu TOC Control	Shimadzu TOC Control	Wet Chem	1998
TOC Anal	Shimadzu TOC-V CSH	H51104435198 CS	Shimadzu TOC Control	Shimadzu TOC Control	Wet Chem	2007
TOX Anal.	Mitsubishi TOX-10E	75R04185	None	N/A	Wet Chem	1996
TOX Anal	Mitsubishi TOX-100	A7M 42997	None	N/A	Wet Chem	2008
IR Spec.	Buck Scientific HC-404	687	None	N/A	Wet Chem	1997
DO Meter	YSI-50B	91L034801	None	N/A	Wet Chem	1988
DO Meter	YSI-51B	92A035818	None	N/A	Wet Chem	1998
DO Meter	YSI-55/12ft	00C0598BG	None	N/A	Wet Chem	2000
Turbidimeter	HF Scientific DRT 100B	21141	None	N/A	Wet Chem	1987
Flashpoint	Fisher Scientific Pensky-Martin	40300010	None	N/A	Wet Chem	1996
fpH Meter	Orion 250A	O18019	None	N/A	field	2007
fpH10	YSI	JC02538	None	N/A	field	2007

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pH Meter-4	Orion 710A General chem. (pH 4)	3978	None	N/A	Wet Chem	1996
PH Meter-11	Fisher Scientific (pH 3)	1505104	None	N/A	Wet Chem	2003
PH Meter-12	Thermo Orion 310 (pH12)	14011	None	N/A	Wet Chem	2003
pH Meter 26	Thomas Scientific TS 625	06390411	None	N/A	Wet Chem	2007
PH Meter 46	Thermo Orion 4 Star	B10299	None	N/A	Wet Chem	2008
PH Meter-47	Thermo Orion 4 Star	B04869	None	N/A	Wet Chem	2008
PH/EH Meter-22	Thermo Orion 4 Star	SN00742	None	N/A	Wet Chem	2008
PH Meter - 23	Thermo Orion Model 310	SN013786	None	N/A	Wet Chem	2008
Cond. Meter	YSI-30	J0183	None	N/A	Wet Chem	2004
Cond. Meter	Amber Science 1056	01020851056-101	None	N/A	Wet Chem	2001
Cond. Meter	Orion 145+	78035	None	N/A	Wet Chem	2004
Cond. Meter	Oakton 4003	78643	None	N/A	Wet Chem	2004
UVVIS Spec C	Spectronix 20 Gensys	3SGA122034	None	N/A	Wet Chem	2000
UVVIS Spec F	Spectronix 20 Gensys (4001/4)	356329906	None	N/A	Wet Chem	2007
UVVIS Spec G	Thermo Electron Corp Genesys 20	3SGJ238001	None	N/A	Wet Chem	2007
UVVIS Spec H	Thermo Electron Corp Genesys 20	3SGJ306016	None	N/A	Wet Chem	2007
UVVIS Spec D	Spectronix 20 Gensys (4001/4)	3SGF170020	None	N/A	Wet Chem	2007
UVVIS Spec E	Spectronix 20 Gensys (4001/4)	3SGD.352011	None	N/A	Wet Chem	2007
Calorimeter	PARR 1261EA; no software used	1499	None	N/A	Wet Chem	1996
Ion Chrom.	Dionex DX500	99040750	Dionex Peak Net Run	Dionex Peak Net Run	Wet Chem	1999
Ion Chrom.	Dionex ICS2000	02090737	Dionex Chromeleon Client	Dionex Chromeleon Client	Wet Chem	2004

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Ion Chrom.	Dionex ICS2000	02110028	Dionex Chromeleon Client	Dionex Chromeleon Client	Wet Chem	2004
Ion Chrom.	Dionex ICS2000	04060060	Dionex Chromeleon Client	Dionex Chromeleon Client	Wet Chem	2004
Ion Chrom.	Dionex ICS3000	06040160	Dionex Chromeleon Client	Dionex Chromeleon Client	Wet Chem	2006
Ion Chrom.	Metrohm-Peak IC	1844012003147	MagIC Net	MagIC Net	Wet Chem	2007
ASE Extract	Dionex Accelerated Solvent Extractor	99030375	None	N/A	Wet Chem	1999
Analytical Balance	Mettler AE 160 (B-5)	C11620	None	N/A	Wet Chem	1999
Analytical Balance	ACCU LA 110 (B-10)	70405919	None	N/A	Wet Chem	2001
Analytical Balance	Ohaus Adventurer (B-24)	1225032523P	None	N/A	Wet Chem	2004
Top Load Balance	Ohaus TS400D (B-3)	1330	None	N/A	Wet Chem	Prior to 2000
Top Load Balance	Ohaus Scout (B-4)	BJ046417	None	N/A	Wet Chem	2001
Top Load Balance	Ohaus E400 (B-6)	8714	None	N/A	Wet Chem	Prior to 2000
Top Load Balance	Ohaus Navigator (B-7)	1121370265	None	N/A	Wet Chem	2002
Top Load Balance	Ohaus CT200S (B-8)	17872	None	N/A	Wet Chem	2000
Top Load Balance	Ohaus TS400S (B-9)	2475	None	N/A	Wet Chem	2000

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Top Load Balance	Ohaus GT4100 (B-11)	3202	None	N/A	Wet Chem	Prior to 2000
Top Load Balance	Sartorius B4100 (B-13)	38080035	None	N/A	Wet Chem	Prior to 2000
Top Load Balance	Denver Inst. Co. XL500 (B-14)	B045530	None	N/A	Wet Chem	Prior to 2000
Top Load Balance	Ohaus Navigator (B-15)	121370273	None	N/A	Wet Chem	2002
Top Load Balance	Ohaus Explorer (B-16)	E1581119212171	None	N/A	Wet Chem	2001
Top Load Balance	Ohaus Navigator (B-17)	11192639994	None	N/A	Wet Chem	2001
Top Load Balance	Ohaus Navigator (B-18)	1119323138	None	N/A	Wet Chem	2001
Top Load Balance	Ohaus Scout II (B-19)	BJ514783	None	N/A	Wet Chem	2002
Top Load Balance	Ohaus Scout II (B-20)	BJ320905	None	N/A	Wet Chem	2002
Top Load Balance	Ohaus Adventurer (B-21)	E1021218270448	None	N/A	Wet Chem	2001
Top Load Balance	Accu Lab V-3mg (B-23)	9891BL374	None	N/A	Wet Chem	2004
Top Load Balance	Ohaus Scout II (B-25)	BJ514770	None	N/A	Wet Chem	2004
Top Load Balance	Ohaus Adventurer – AR3130 (B-26)	1240-P	None	N/A	Wet Chem	2004
Top Load Balance	Ohaus Adventurer AV412 (B-27)	8026251106	None	N/A	Wet Chem	2005
Top Load	Ohaus Sport (B-28)	7124230518	None	N/A	Wet Chem	2005

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Balance						
Top Load Balance	Ohaus Adventurer AV412 (B-29)	8026391019	None	N/A	Wet Chem	2005
Top Load Balance	Ohaus Adventurer AV412 (B-30)	8026391160	None	N/A	Wet Chem	2005
Top Load Balance	Ohaus Adventurer AV412 (B-31)	8028041080	None	N/A	Wet Chem	2007
TOP Load Balance	Sartorius TE31025 (B-32)	21950273	None	N/A	Wet Chem	2007
TOP Load Balance	Ohaus Adventure AV412 (B-33)	8028391184	None	N/A	Sample Management	2007
TOP Load Balance	Ohaus Adventure AV412 (B-34)	8028391117	None	N/A	Organic Hood	2007
TOP Load Balance	Ohaus Adventure AV212 (B-35)	8029171184	None	N/A	Extra	2008
TOP Load Balance	Ohaus Adventure AV212 (B-36)	8029131104	None	N/A	extra	2008
TOP Load Balance	Ohaus Adventure AV412 (B-37)	802916112	None	N/A	extra	2008